

Country Life—November 10, 1955

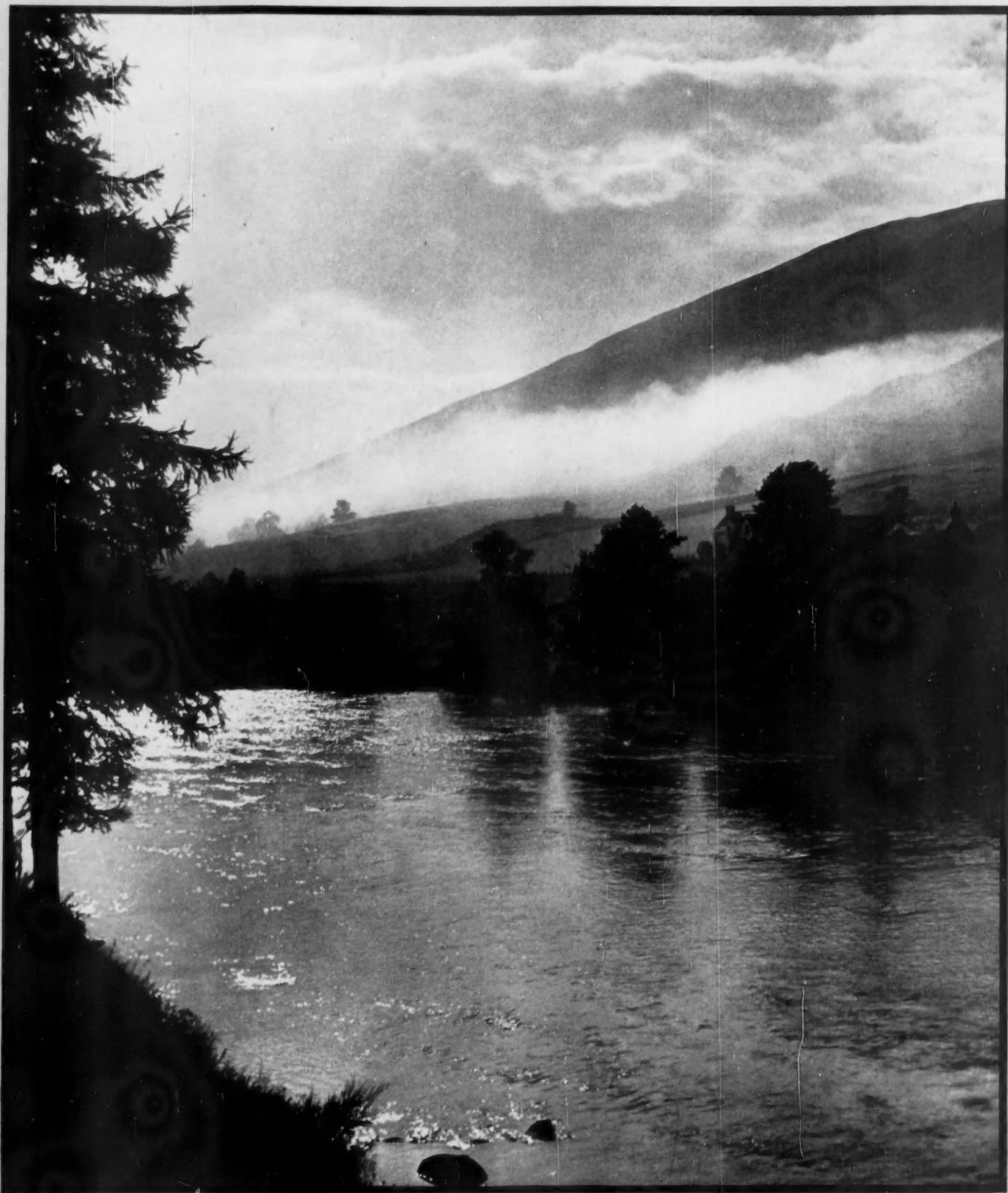
CHARM OF THE QUANTOCKS

COUNTRY LIFE

On Sale Thursday

NOVEMBER 10, 1955

TWO SHILLINGS



AUTUMN MIST IN GLEN LYON, PERTHSHIRE

J. Allan Cash



Plan your home at Harrods — where the newest designs in furniture and fabrics offer you boundless scope for originality, where the immense choice helps you to plan line and colour schemes down to the last distinctive detail. The selection in traditional mood is equally comprehensive, and Harrods deferred terms bring the finest furniture within reach of everyone.

Harrods
- of course

COUNTRY LIFE

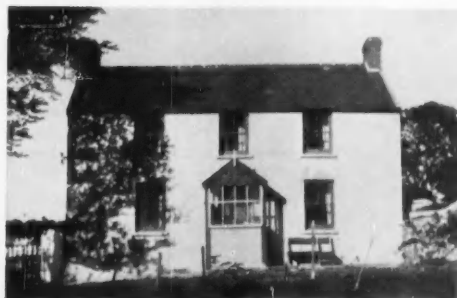
Vol. CXVIII No. 3069

NOVEMBER 10, 1955

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

PEMBROKESHIRE—ADJOINING PEMBROKE

Milford Haven 7 miles. Tenby 10 miles. Haverfordwest 20 miles. Carmarthen 20 miles.



KINGSFOLD FARM. LOT 1

The exceptional Freehold
Agricultural Investment

THE KINGSTON ESTATE

889 ACRES

6 EXCELLENT FARMS
RANGING

FROM 32 TO 271 ACRES

3 SMALLHOLDINGS

6 BLOCKS OF
ACCOMMODATION LANDS

ALL LET
AND PRODUCING
ABOUT

£1,424 PER ANNUM

FOR SALE BY AUCTION as a
whole or in 15 Lots at the TOWN
HALL, PEMBROKE, on THURS-
DAY, DECEMBER 1, at 3 p.m.
(unless previously sold).

Solicitors: Messrs. PRICE & SON, 6, Dew Street, Haverfordwest.

Auctioneers: Mr. J. A. ROCH, F.A.I., Main Street, Pembroke (Tel. 342), and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.



MAXWELTON. LOT 3



ALLESTON FARM. LOT 6



KINGSTON FARM. LOT 7

ESSEX—SUFFOLK BORDERS

8 miles from Braintree. Chelmsford 22 miles. London 49 miles.

TATTERSALLS FARM, SIBLE HEDINGHAM—196 ACRES

FIRST-CLASS RESIDENTIAL
AND ATTESTED DAIRY, ARABLE
AND PIG-REARING FARM.

Beautiful Timbered Period House.

3 reception rooms, 4-5 bedrooms,
3 bathrooms, 2 service flats.

Foreman's house, Cottage, 4 barns.

Cowhouse for 13, piggeries.

Formerly well known stud, suitable for
part re-conversion.

FOR SALE BY AUCTION at the
Corn Exchange, Chelmsford, on
Friday, November 18, at 4 p.m.
(unless previously sold).

Solicitors: Messrs. BREFE & WYLES, Westminster Bank Chambers, High Street, Epping, Essex.

Auctioneers: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.



IDEAL FOR HOTEL, SCHOLASTIC OR INSTITUTIONAL PURPOSES

TAUNTON, SOMERSET

In completely secluded rural surroundings, under 2 miles from the town centre. London, 2½ hours by express train.

STAPLEGROVE MANOR

The House, which is substantially
built and well-planned, faces south
with excellent views over parkland.

Lounge hall, 5 reception rooms, 18 bed
and dressing rooms, 5 bathrooms.
Central heating. All main services.

Garages. Stabling. Small farmery.

2 COTTAGES

Well-timbered gardens, walled kitchen
gardens, orchards, park and woodland.

ABOUT 43 ACRES

FOR SALE BY AUCTION AS A WHOLE OR IN 9 LOTS AT TAUNTON IN NOVEMBER (unless previously sold)

Solicitors: Messrs. PENNINGTON & SON, 64, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.2.

Joint Auctioneers: Messrs. WILLIAM J. VILLAR & CO., 10, Hammet Street, Taunton (Tel. 2515), and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.

MAYfair 3771
(15 lines)

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

Telegrams:
"Galleries, Weado, London"



JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF

8, HANOVER STREET, LONDON, W.1 MAYFAIR 3316-7
Also at CIRENCESTER, NORTHAMPTON, YORK, YEOVIL, CHICHESTER, CHESTER, NEWMARKET AND DUBLIN

By direction of R. N. RICHMOND-WATSON, Esq.

OXFORDSHIRE. ON THE EDGE OF THE CHILTERN HILLS

Thame 9 miles. Reading and Oxford equidistant 15 miles.

MAINLY WITH VACANT POSSESSION. THE NOTED RESIDENTIAL AND ATTESTED AGRICULTURAL ESTATE
BRIGHTWELL PARK, BRIGHTWELL BALDWIN

Having a medium-sized Character Residence in a charming small park overlooking the lake.

3 reception rooms, nursery, 9 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Oil-fired central heating. Main electricity. Garages and stabling. Hard tennis court. Valuable grazing parklands.

Together with
BRIGHTWELL FARM
A useful dairy and mixed holding let to substantial tenant.



For Sale Privately or by Auction at an early date.

Particulars can be obtained from the Auctioneers: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 20, Bridge Street, Northampton (Tel. 32990); 8, Hanover Street, London, W.1 (Mayfair 3316).

Solicitors: Messrs. DAWSON & CO., 2, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London, W.C.2 (Holborn 9741).

CHICHESTER HARBOUR

Close to Itchenor and Birdham.

PERIOD-STYLE RESIDENCE



CHARMING LITTLE COTTAGE

Full particulars from:

JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 37, South Street, Chichester (Tel. 2633-4).

Built in 1929 in delightful grounds of 3 ACRES

Hall with cloak, 3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 secondary bedrooms.

MODEL KITCHEN WITH AGA

Main water and electricity. Central heating by Jansdor.

A LOVELY 16th-CENTURY RESIDENCE

17 MILES EAST OF TAUNTON

3 RECEPTION ROOMS (one 45 ft. by 20 ft.)

6 BEDROOMS
2 BATHROOMS

Main services.

USEFUL OUTBUILDINGS

CHARMING GARDENS
IN ALL ABOUT 1½ ACRES

Vacant Possession



BARGAIN AT £5,750 OR NEAR OFFER

Full details from JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 30, Handford, Yeovil (Tel. 1088).

CIRENCESTER, MALMESBURY, TETBURY AREA

Kemble Junction 8½ miles.

A FIRST-CLASS OLD COTSWOLD RESIDENCE



Fully modernised
6 bed and dressing rooms,
3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms.
Main electricity. Company's water.
PARTIAL CENTRAL HEATING
Delightful garden, garage and stabling. Cottage
14 ACRES of excellent pasture land with piggeries and other good agricultural buildings. Highly suitable for pig farming and stock rearing.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE WITH EARLY POSSESSION

Joint Sole Agents: JACKSON-STOPS, Cirencester (Tel. 334-5);
R. J. TUCKETT & SON, Tetbury (Tel. 6).

OUR CHESTER OFFICE OFFERS THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Unsold at Auction now for sale privately at a reasonable price.

BOLLIN HOUSE FARM, MOBBERLEY, CHESHIRE (Manchester 15 miles). Residential T.T. Attested Dairy Farm. Modernised Residence: 3 reception, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, bath's cottage, worker's flat. Main electric light and water. Tying for 35. Excellent pasture land. 87½ ACRES.

DOLWYDELAN, CAERNARVONSHIRE. Charming stone-built Cottage-style Residence known as Rhw Goch. Situated in a most lovely position 600 ft. above sea level, near Pont-y-Pant. Dining hall, sitting room (25 ft. by 15 ft.), kitchen, bathroom, 3 bedrooms on ground floor, 2 bedrooms upstairs. Own electric light and water supplies. Garage and farm-buildings mainly piggeries. Land including meadows adjoining River Lledr. 45 ACRES. FOR SALE with or without ½ mile first-class salmon and sea trout fishing on River Lledr.

TO BE LET ON LEASE TO A GOOD TENANT

TREFNANT, near St. Asaph, Flintshire. Country House in glorious position on estate. 3-4 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main services. Central heating. Garden with hard tennis court. Garage and 2 loose boxes. RENT £175 PER ANNUM.

MINFORDD, NEAR PORT MEIRION, Merionethshire. Well-built modern Bungalow Residence, one mile from sea. Lounge (22 ft. by 12 ft.), 3 bedrooms, bathroom, modern kitchen. Main water and electricity. Garage. Small garden. PRICE £2,950.

Further particulars of any of the above properties obtainable from the Agents: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 25, Nicholas Street, Chester (Tel. 21522-3).

OXON

About equidistant Woodstock, Banbury, Chipping Norton.

CHARMING COTTAGE RESIDENCE

700 ft. above sea level.

4 BEDROOMS
BATHROOM

3 RECEPTION ROOMS
Main electricity.

Central heating.
Good water supply.

GARAGE
PLEASANT GARDEN

TOTAL 4 ACRES



FREEHOLD. JUST PLACED IN THE MARKET

Sole Agents: JACKSON-STOPS, Cirencester (Tel. 334-5).

IN THE FERTILE PLAIN OF YORK

YORK 12 miles.

A PRODUCTIVE MIXED FARM WITH 112 ACRES

of light to medium good bodied soil nearly all in a ring fence featuring

ATTRACTIVE MODERNISED DETACHED HOUSE

with 3 LIVING ROOMS, KITCHEN, 4 BEDROOMS AND ULTRA-MODERN BATHROOM WITH W.C.

EXCELLENT BUILDINGS, several being multi-purpose including fine covered foldyard and accommodation for stock more or less T.T. standard.

£9,500 FREEHOLD

Particulars from: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 23, High Petergate, York (Tel. 53170).

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

BETWEEN MARLOW & BEACONSFIELD

Situated on a southern slope in wooded surroundings.
Easy reach of station and bus route. London 1 hour.

AN ATTRACTIVE WELL-BUILT HOUSE



Planned entirely on two floors, *practically all* principal rooms having south aspect.

Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms. Partial central heating, main electric light, power and water. Modern drainage. Double garage with playroom above. The gardens are delightfully laid out and well timbered. Tennis and other lawns, flowerbeds, trees and shrubs. Kitchen garden and fruit trees.

ABOUT 2 ACRES
PRICE FREEHOLD £6,000

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (52,110 S.C.M.)

WINCHESTER, HAMPSHIRE

9 miles from station. (Waterloo 1½ hours.)

QUEEN ANNE HOUSE WITH EXCELLENT FREEHOLD T.T. DAIRY AND PIG-REARING FARM OF ABOUT 75 ACRES



2 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, staff wing of 2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, bathroom.

Buildings include milking parlour.

BARN

4 LOOSE BOXES

PIGSTYES

Main electricity and water.

Septic tank drainage.

ADDITIONAL COTTAGE AVAILABLE IF REQUIRED

Joint Sole Agents: JAMES HARRIS & SON, Jewry Chambers, Winchester (Tel. 2353), and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (53,400 C.M.S.)

NORFOLK—SUFFOLK BORDER

Diss main-line station 2 miles.

MOST ATTRACTIVE SMALL PERIOD HOUSE WITH 2-ACRE ORCHARD



2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, bathroom.

Delightful gardens.

Cottage (3 bedrooms).

Main electricity.

Main water available.

Septic tank drainage.

IN ALL ABOUT
3 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (53,365 C.F.)

MAYfair 3771
(15 lines)

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

Telegrams:
"Galleries, Wesdo, London"

SURREY, 1 HOUR S.W. OF LONDON

Occupying a delightful position with beautiful views. 2 miles from Farnham Station with half-hourly train service to Waterloo.

CHARMING MODERN HOUSE IN EXCELLENT ORDER THROUGHOUT

3 reception rooms, 4 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms. All main services. Double garage with flat over. Staff annexe. Cottage. 2 other garages.

The delightfully laid-out gardens are a feature of the property with kitchen garden and woodland.



ABOUT 12½ ACRES FOR SALE FREEHOLD

The house and 3 acres would be sold separately.

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (40,142 K.M.)

BERKS—OXON BORDERS, London 52 miles

WITH FRONTAGE TO THE THAMES

A CHARMING PERIOD HOUSE

Completely modernised and facing south.

Hall, double and 2 other reception rooms, 7 principal bedrooms (each with fitted basin), 2 bathrooms, 3 other bedrooms, staff bathroom. Oil-fired central heating. Main electricity, power and water.



Attractive Tithe Barn, converted to COTTAGE, having 4 rooms, studio, kitchen and bathroom. Garages, outbuildings, rough woodland, 2 paddocks, garden and orchard.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH 9 ACRES

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (40,213 C.A.B.)

BEDS—BUCKS BORDER, LONDON 1 HOUR

Edge of village, close to station. Main-line station at Bletchley 6 miles.

ATTRACTIVE QUEEN ANNE HOUSE

in good order throughout.

3 reception rooms, 5 principal bed and dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms, excellent separate staff or guest accommodation. Central heating. Main electric light and water.

COTTAGE

Stable block. Garage. Well-timbered grounds including easily maintained garden and parkland.



IN ALL 13 ACRES FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (43,636 K.M.)

16, ARCADE STREET,
IPSWICH
Ipswich 4334

WOODCOCKS

30, ST. GEORGE STREET,
HANOVER SQUARE, W.1.
MAYfair 5433

EAST SUFFOLK

Sea 8 miles, near small main-line town.

Miniature Estate of 23 Acres, mostly timbered pasture-land, with picturesque Tudor-style residence in warm red brick with mellow tiled roof: cloaks, oak-panelled hall, 4 reception, good domestic offices (4-oven Aga), 6 principal and 2 secondary bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Mains electricity, automatic water, central heating. Charming gardens and grounds. Useful outbuildings. 2 paddocks. Pair of excellent cottages. The property faces south, lies within a ring fence and enjoys an entirely uninterrupted wide pastoral outlook over own parklands—amidst completely unspoilt surroundings. Trustees of late owner have just reduced the price by £2,000 and will accept £6,000 for immediate sale with Vacant Possession. Inspected and strongly recommended. Full details and photos of Ipswich Office.

Lovely Ashdown Forest district.

SUSSEX

11 miles Tunbridge Wells.

15th-century Residence, beautifully preserved and in lovely setting. 2 reception, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Main services, central heating. Garage and outbuildings. For quick sale, with or without 14-acre model farmery, own cottage, etc.

Inspected and recommended. Woodcocks, London.

LOVELY EXE VALLEY

Hunting, shooting, fishing close at hand.



T.T. Dairy and Stock Farm, 220 acres with modernised Residence, 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, bathroom. Electricity, Rayburn, etc. Ample buildings with good cottage. Freehold £9,750. Inspected and recommended. Full details of Woodcocks, London.

NEAR CAMBRIDGE

Edge of village with buses passing.

Really first-class, profit making Pig, Poultry and Market Garden Holding, 7 acres (more rented). Charming small Period House, 3 reception, 3 bedrooms, bathroom. Aga. Full central heating. Mains electricity and water. Excellent modern buildings, 2 greenhouses. Possession. Freehold £8,750, including growing crops. Woodcocks, London.

WOODBRIDGE 1 MILE, IPSWICH 9

Charming Modern Residence in 1½ Acres of attractive, easily-maintained garden. Cloaks, 3 reception (one 24 ft. by 16 ft.) with narrow board oak flooring, 5-6 bedrooms (pedestal basins), 2 modern bathrooms, constant h.w. and complete central heat from Janitor boiler. Mains electricity, gas and water. Phone. Double brick garage. Freehold £6,500. Inspected and recommended by Ipswich Office.



HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

HYDe Park 8222 (20 lines)

Telegrams: "Sefaniet, Piccy, London"



WEST SURREY—32 MILES OF LONDON

In a picked position within easy reach of station with good train service to Waterloo. Close to buses, shops, excellent schools and golf course.
AN EXCEPTIONALLY WELL APPOINTED MODERN GEORGIAN-STYLE RESIDENCE

In superb order throughout

On 2 floors.

Labour-saving, easy to run.

Lounge hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms,
 loggia, playroom, 5 principal bedrooms with
 basins, 3 well-fitted bathrooms, and staff flat,
 compact domestic offices.

Main services. Electrical heating.



Garages for 4 cars and outbuildings.

Matured gardens and grounds well maintained

and including nearly new

En-Tout-Cas hard tennis court,

orchard, productive kitchen garden, etc.

IN ALL NEARLY 1 1/4 ACRES

Summerhouse and greenhouses.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE

*Personally inspected and highly recommended by Joint Sole Agents: Messrs. CHANCELLORS & CO., Sunningdale and Ascot (Tel. 64), and
 HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S.49338)*

XVth CENTURY SUSSEX FARM HOUSE

FOR SALE

On a Southern slope in a favourable part of the County.

SMALL FARMERY WITH T.T. ATTESTED BUILDINGS



**Picturesque house with a fine central
 Tudor chimney, listed in "Buildings of
 Architectural and Historic Interest".**

**4 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS,
 2 RECEPTION ROOMS AND STONE
 FLAGGED HALL**

*Agas cooker, Janitor boiler for hot water and
 radiators. Main electric light and water.*

STABLING. GARAGE. COWHOUSE for 8.

*Grain germinating house. Bull pen, calving
 box, etc., all fitted fluorescent lighting.*

**EXCELLENT COTTAGE. Delightful garden,
 prolific apple orchard with spacious packing
 shed.**



TOTAL AREA ABOUT 16 ACRES ON A SANDY LOAM AND SANDROCK SUBSOIL

Inspected and recommended by the Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (C.33127)

HARROW WEALD, MIDDLESEX

Adjoining the Common, on bus route. 1 mile Stanmore (Bakerloo) Station.

VALUABLE AND EXCELLENTLY SITUATED FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

THE KILN, COMMON ROAD

**HANDSOME PERIOD
 RESIDENCE**

containing

**4 BEDROOMS, DRESSING ROOM AND
 3 BATHROOMS, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS,
 CLOAKROOM, GOOD STAFF QUARTERS
 AND DOMESTIC OFFICES**

All main services.



CHARMING GROUNDS

**including old-world, partly walled pleasure
 and kitchen gardens and about 10 acres
 woodland and 7 1/4 acre field.**

**NURSERY and MARKET GARDEN
 (let at £205 p.a.).**

IN ALL ABOUT 24 ACRES

**Vacant Possession except nursery and
 market garden.**

FOR SALE PRIVATELY OR BY AUCTION, NOVEMBER 30, 1955.

Illustrated particulars from the Auctioneers: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1.

SURREY—HAMPSHIRE BORDER

Elevated position with views; 2 1/4 miles Farnham. On bus route.

COMPACT MODERN RESIDENCE



**Very suitable for today's
 needs.**

**Excellent order.
 Nice hall, cloakroom,
 3 reception rooms,
 4 bedrooms (3 with basins),
 dressing room, bathroom,
 bright kitchen.**

All main services.

CENTRAL HEATING

Double garage.

**Matured timbered grounds
 with orchard,
 1 1/4 ACRES
 easy of maintenance.**

FREEHOLD. VERY MODERATE PRICE FOR QUICK SALE

Low rates and outgoings.

Recommended by:

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (H.56059)

LOVELY PART OF SUSSEX

*Between London (29 miles) and the coast (22 miles). Easy distance main-line station
 (electrified service). Delightful elevated position amidst wooded countryside.*

ENCHANTING LUXURY QUEEN ANNE-STYLE RESIDENCE

**In exceptional order
 with a rarely obtainable
 completely**

self-contained

COTTAGE ANNEXE

**Spacious hall with good
 cloakroom, 2 bright
 reception rooms, tiled
 terrace, model domestic
 offices, 3 bedrooms,
 2 superb bathrooms.**

**The annexe has well-fitted
 kitchen, reception room,
 bedrooms and
 excellent bathroom.**

Central heating throughout.

Co's electric light and water.

2 GARAGES



**Choice and beautifully kept grounds, orchard and vegetable garden extending in
 all to about 2 1/2 ACRES. FREEHOLD FOR SALE**

Inspected and most strongly recommended by Sole Agents:

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's S.W.1. (C.63417)

[Continued on Supplement 17]

BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON AND STATION; BOURNEMOUTH, HANTS; AND BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS.

HYDE PARK
4304

OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

28b, ALBEMARLE STREET,
PICCADILLY, W.1

CHICHESTER HARBOUR

Occupying a pleasant position on the outskirts of the
delightful yachting village of Eichenor.
A CHARMING SMALL MODERN HOUSE

On 2 floors only, with a view of the Channel. Hall,
2 reception, 3-4 bedrooms (basins h. and c.), bathroom,
maids' room, adequate domestic offices. Main electricity
and water. 2 garages. Matured garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 3/4 ACRE
Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,855)

BUCKS, 6 MILES FROM BLETCHLEY
 In beautiful country in the centre of Whaddon Chase.
A DELIGHTFUL 16th-CENTURY HOUSE OF
GREAT HISTORICAL INTEREST
 Scheduled as an Ancient Monument

3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bath-
rooms. Central heating. Main electricity and water.
Garage block with staff accommodation.
Charming gardens, orchard and paddock, in all
ABOUT 4 1/2 ACRES
Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,813)

PINNER, MIDDLESEX

In an attractive situation a few minutes from the station
on the Metropolitan line.

A Charming Modernised Period House

In first-class order throughout.
3 reception, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.
Central Heating. All Main Services.
Large garage, excellent outbuildings and a delightful
old-world garden.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD
Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,795)

IN LOVELY COUNTRY NEAR MAIDSTONE
 An Historical Half-timbered Manor House dating from
the 14th century, modernised and in first-class order.


Magnificent Great Hall, 4 reception, 5 principal and
4 secondary beds, 3 baths. Part central heating.
TWO COTTAGES (ONE LET). OUTBUILDINGS
 Delightful gardens forming an ideal setting for the
house; hard tennis court, prolific orchards, etc.
FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 5 ACRES
Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (20,384)

1, STATION ROAD,
READING

READING 54055 (4 lines)

NICHOLAS

(ESTABLISHED 1882)

4, ALBANY COURT ROAD,
PICCADILLY, W.1

REGENT 1184 (3 lines)



WITH ATTES: 'D FARM OF 150 ACRES

ON THE SOUTH OXON HILLS

6 miles from Reading, 42 minutes of Paddington.

FOR SALE

THIS BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED HOUSE OF THE
MANOR HOUSE TYPE

A REAL COUNTRY HOME IN A DELIGHTFUL SETTING

ATTESTED HOME FARM OF 150 ACRES

THE DAIRYING BUILDINGS ARE OF A HIGH STANDARD

Full particulars of Messrs. NICHOLAS, 1, Station Road, Reading.

LIME TREE COTTAGE, GORING-ON-THAMES
 Thames-side favourite village (R.C. church and station for
London).


FASCINATING HOUSE

In quiet, central position, originally 2 cottages and ideal
also for such use.

Large living room 30 ft. long, dining room, study, cloak-
room, kitchen, 4 good bedrooms, large dressing room and
2 bathrooms, useful second-floor bedrooms above each
half.

Mains. Garage. Beautiful (but small) old garden.

£6,000

IN A LOVELY COUNTRY BETTING
SOUTH BERKSHIRE
Between Reading and Newbury and handy for Donai School
and Bradfield College.A COLONIAL-STYLE HOUSE
on high ground with magnificent views.

THE ACCOMMODATION (all one floor) comprises a
fine lounge hall, a drawing room 31 ft. long, dining room,
3 main bedrooms and a maid's bedroom, 2 bathrooms,
a wing of 3 small rooms (formerly billiard room).
Pleasing garden with tennis court, 2 small paddocks,
valuable oak woodland.

IN ALL NEARLY 7 ACRES

GARAGE

Main electric light and power. Main drainage.

PRICE FREEHOLD £6,750

Excellent cottage optional.

Apply: Reading Office.

FRAMPTON'S HOUSE, EAST HENDRED
 West Berkshire (London accessible daily from Didcot
5 miles).


GEORGIAN HOUSE

In lovely old-world village between Newbury and Oxford
with excellent bus services.

3 large reception rooms, office, 5 main bedrooms,
2 bathrooms, 4 secondary bedrooms.

Mains. Wonderful old grounds, garage for 2, and stabling.

£6,750



BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS

LONDON AND OXTE

YORK

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

EDINBURGH

LEEDS 11 MILES.

YORKSHIRE, WEST RIDING

THE ATTRACTIVE SMALL RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

HAWKSWORTH HALL ESTATE, NEAR GUISELEY

Including a

FINE JACOBAN HALL OF HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST
 containing 4 reception rooms, 6 principal bedrooms, ample well-equipped servants' and domestic quarters,
picturesque grounds and good outbuildings.

EXCELLENT RANGE OF BUILDINGS with flat together with grass paddock.
TWO VALUABLE BUILDING SITES and an area of accommodation land.

DETACHED BUNGALOW

Two valuable areas of well-matured timber

ABOUT 31 ACRES IN ALL

TO BE OFFERED FOR SALE BY AUCTION IN LOTS (unless previously sold by Private
Treaty), on **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1955**, at 2.30 p.m. at **THE QUEENS HOTEL, LEEDS**.

Solicitors: Messrs. FRANKSON & WARD, 1, New Street, York (Tel. 3661 and 4454), and at Malton, Yorks.
 Auctioneers: Messrs. BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS, 81, Helen's Square, York (Tel. 2452).



West End Office: 129, Mount Street, Berkeley Square, Mayfair, W.1 (GROsvenor 2501). Head Office: 1, Buckingham Palace Road, Westminster, S.W.1 (VICTORIA 3012). Branches
 at St. Helen's Square, York (Tel. 2452); 8, Central Arcade, Grainger Street, Newcastle upon Tyne (Tel. 29713); 21a, Ainslie Place, Edinburgh (Tel. 34351) and Oxted, Surrey (Tel. 975).

GROSVENOR 1553
(4 lines)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)
25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.113, Hobart Place,
Eaton Square,
W.1, West Halkin Street,
Belgrave Square,
London, S.W.1

KINGSWOOD, SURREY

*Secluded position in private cul-de-sac.*BEAUTIFULLY FITTED MODERN RESIDENCE OF EXCEPTIONAL
ATTRACTIONIn excellent order with
tasteful decorations.Oil-fired central heating.
Oak strip floors, 2 bath-
rooms, principal suite of
bedroom, bathroom and
w.c., 4 other bedrooms (fit-
ted basins), and bathroom,
2-3 reception rooms (in-
cluding sun room or study),
modern well-fitted kitchen.
All main services, includ-
ing gas.Double garage with large
room over.

1 ACRE secluded wooded garden (1 man 1 day per week) with hard tennis court.

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION

Highly recommended. GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1.
R.A.W. (D.1848)

SOUTH OF THE HOGS BACK, SURREY

In a pretty village, between Farnham and Godalming.

A MINIATURE SHOW-PLACE

In first-class order; cleverly planned and fully labour-saving.

Recently re-designed by
London architect for his
own occupation.3-4 bedrooms, lounge
(22 ft. by 19 ft.), dining
room, model bathroom and
kitchen.Main services and central
heating.

2 garages. Low outgoings.



Economical but charming wooded grounds of about 1 ACRE

RECOMMENDED AT £6,500 FREEHOLD

Sole Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1.
C.B.A. (D.1839)

SOUTH COTSWOLDS, near STROUD

*Facing south-west, overlooking the beautiful Woodchester
Valley.*A FINE OLD GREY-STONE RESIDENCE—
1658 A.D.

Modernised internally on labour-saving lines.

4-5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, modern
kitchen and compact offices.

All main services. Central heating.

DOUBLE GARAGE AND STABLING

Well-kept grounds of about 1½ ACRES

VACANT POSSESSION

PRICE £6,500 FREEHOLD

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London,
W.1. C.B.A. (A.7780)

PROPERTIES WANTED

10 MILES STORRINGTON

7 bed. ideal, but more considered to obtain large rooms.
Acreage immaterial.

Possession not essential for 6-12 months. Ref. "H."

2 HOURS LONDON

On or near sea or river for yachting and coarse
fishing.

4-6 bed., stabling. Land for 3 houses. Ref. "K.M."

COLCHESTER-WOODBRIDGE

Not pre-18th century

4-7 bed.

2-30 acres or with farm of up to 300 acres let.
Ref. Mrs. "B."GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London,
W.1.

SURREY HILLS

*Pleasant position, with lovely views. On bus route. London
30 minutes by rail.*BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED
MODERN DETACHED HOUSE

In really good order throughout.

Hall, 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, dressing room,
2 bathrooms, model kitchen.

All main services.

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS. STABLING, ETC.

Small garden and paddock.

IN ALL ABOUT 1 ACRE

REDUCED PRICE FOR QUICK SALE

Inspected and recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE AND
SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. E.H.T. (D.1842)GROSVENOR
2861

TRESIDDER & CO.

77, SOUTH AUDLEY STREET, LONDON, W.1.

Telegrams:
"Cornishmen (Audley), London"

SURREY—SUSSEX BORDER

2½ miles Horley and Crawley, rural and secluded position.

ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY HOUSE (part dating from early 18th century)

Hall, cloakroom, 3 recep-
tion, 2 bath., 4 main bed.
(3 h. and e.), dressing room.Staff wing (sitting room,
kitchen, bathroom, 2 bed.

Main electricity and water.

Telephone.

FINE OLD BARN
wood block floor (suitable
billiards or library).

Garage.

Beautifully disposed gardens of about 2 ACRES, comprising wide spreading
lawns, variety of flowering and other trees, rock and rose gardens, etc.

SECONDARY HOUSE AVAILABLE IF REQUIRED

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (30.659)

DEVON

OUTSKIRTS VILLAGE WITH BUS SERVICES

*Lovely outlook over open country.*CHARMING STONE-BUILT MANOR HOUSE. Lounge hall, 2 reception,
2 bath., 5 bedrooms. Central heating, water and drainage. Double
garage. Stabling. Outbuildings. Walled flower garden. Orchard and paddock.

4¼ ACRES. £4,500 FREEHOLD

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (30.507)

£4,500 FREEHOLD. BARGAIN

LYME REGIS (about 1 mile distant)

High up, glorious coastal views. INTERESTING HOUSE DATING FROM
18th CENTURY. 3 large reception, study, 3 bath., 5 bed., attics. Main services.
Garage. Cottage. Lovely walled and other gardens, kitchen garden and orchard,
2 ACRES

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (29.672)

PYRFORD, SURREY

25 miles London. 3 miles Woking. 1 mile main line station. Close to open country.

PICTURESQUE MODERN HOUSE facing fully south and obtaining maximum
sunshine. 4 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, 3 reception rooms. Detached
garage. Partial central heating. All main services. Easily maintained garden.

ABOUT 1 ACRE

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (30.686)

CROWE, BATES & WEEKES

CRANLEIGH (Tel. 200). And at BRIDGE STREET and 183, HIGH STREET,
GUILDFORD (Tels. 5137 and 2864/5).

Midway between Guildford and Horsham

A CHARMING MODERNISED PERIOD PROPERTY

In unspoilt country
overlooking a common.

3 RECEPTION ROOMS.

MODERN KITCHEN.

STAFF ROOM OR

PLAYROOM.

5 BEDROOMS.

2 BATHROOMS.

GARAGE AND STABLE.

MAIN ELECTRICITY AND WATER. PRETTY GARDEN.

Cranleigh Office.

GOSLING & MILNER

ESTATE AGENTS, AUCTIONEERS, SURVEYORS AND VALUERS
WENTWORTH, VIRGINIA WATER 8, LOWER GROSVENOR PLACE,
(Tel. Wentworth 2277) S.W.1 (Tel. VICTORIA 3634)

OF OUTSTANDING MERIT

VIRGINIA WATER—WENTWORTH

Station ½ mile. London 21 miles by road. Few mins. from Windsor Great Park.

SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE OF GREAT CHARM

Hall, 3 rec. (one 25 ft. 6 in.
by 13 ft. plus inglenook);
5 principal and guests
bedrooms, 2 staff bed-
rooms, 3 bathrooms, domes-
tic offices with modern
fittings.

Central heating.

2 GARAGES

All main services.

Beautiful Gardens,
matured and fully stocked,
many specimen trees and
shrubs, greenhouse, kit-
chen garden, in all
2 ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE

Strongly recommended by the Owner's Agents: GOSLING & MILNER, as above.

5, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1
GROsvenor
3131-2 and 4744-5

CURTIS & HENSON

ESTABLISHED 1875

and at
21, HORSEFAIR,
BANBURY, OXON
Tel. 3295-6

HUNTINGDONSHIRE

BETWEEN HUNTINGDON AND THRAPSTON

HIGH-YIELDING AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT

FORMERLY 3 FARMS NOW OCCUPIED AS A WHOLE WITH VERY
FINE RANGES OF BUILDINGS AND 5 COTTAGES EXTENDING TO

ABOUT 737 ACRES

PRODUCING £1,292 PER ANNUM

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Joint Sole Agents: Messrs. JAMES HARRISON & SONS, 23, Albert Street, Rugby, and CURTIS & HENSON, as above.

OVERLOOKING STRATFORD-ON-AVON

A SUPERIOR BUNGALOW

comprising 2 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, kitchen,
bathroom, and large GARAGE

Secluded garden and about 500 young bearing fruit trees,
poultry houses and pigsties.

IN ALL 3¼ ACRES

Services, telephone.

Strongly recommended.

PRICE £4,950 FREEHOLD

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, Banbury.

NEWBURY TO BASINGSTOKE

In lovely surroundings on the Hants-Berks border.



A MOST COMFORTABLE MODERNISED COUNTRY HOUSE WITH FINE VIEWS OVER SURROUNDING FARMLAND

The house is in excellent decorative and structural
order and comprises

Entrance hall, 4 reception rooms, 7 bedrooms (4 with
bathrooms), modern well-fitted offices, 3 bathrooms.
Substantial outbuildings. Most attractive garden and
7-acre field. About 9 ACRES in all.

Main electricity. Main water available shortly.
Sole Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, as above.

SURREY—LONDON 25 MILES

Between Reigate and East Grinstead.

Very suitable for conversion (for which outline
planning permission has been granted)

BRICK AND TILED COTTAGE, STABLE AND GARAGE BLOCK ON TWO FLOORS

the cottage in good decorative order and comprising
2 bedrooms, 2 sitting rooms, kitchen and bathroom
(b. and c.), w.c.

Main services.

Lovely old walled garden, Nectarine house, pond and
water garden.

ABOUT ¾ ACRE

PRICE £3,250 FREEHOLD

Joint Sole Agents: SKINNER & ROSE, Reigate, and
CURTIS & HENSON, as above.

3, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

GROsvenor
1032-33-34

By order of the Executors of the late Lady Sassoon.

EAST CLIFF, BOURNEMOUTH

IMPORTANT SALE OF THE LAST REMAINING PRINCIPAL PRIVATE RESIDENCE

Directly on the cliff drive with magnificent Channel views from the Isle of Wight to
the Purbecks.



KEYTHORPE,
25, MANOR ROAD
17 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms,
4-5 reception rooms,
billiards room, complete
offices. Central heating.
Passenger lift.
2 SPLENDID
COTTAGES
2 DOUBLE GARAGES.
Delightful grounds over-
looking the sea of just under
1½ ACRES
Lease expires 1987.
Ground rent £110 per
annum.
VACANT
POSSESSION

To be sold by Auction on the premises on MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1955

Solicitors: Messrs. LINKLATER & PAINES, 6, Austin Friars, London, E.C.2.
Joint Auctioneers: FOX & SONS, 42-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth
(Tel. 6300), and RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

By order of the Executors of Sir Douglas Orme Malcolm.

HAMPSHIRE

In a beautifully elevated and secluded position amidst completely unspoilt surroundings
with extensive and delightful rural views. Conveniently situated for a main line station
and bus route. London just over one hour.



WOODSIDE,
LIPHOOK
CHARMING COTTAGE-
STYLE RESIDENCE OF
CHARACTER
In a most attractive setting
with drive approach.
7 bed and dressing rooms,
3 bathrooms, 3 reception,
compact offices. Aga.
Central heating. Main
electricity and water.
DOUBLE GARAGE.
useful outbuildings.
COTTAGE

GARDENS OF UNUSUAL CHARM with many fine specimen trees and flowering
shrubs. PADDOCK AND WOODLANDS, in all about 6¼ ACRES

Freehold for sale by Private Treaty or Auction later.

Sole Agents: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

7, BROAD STREET,
WOKINGHAM
(Tel. 777-8 and 63)

MARTIN & POLE

INCORPORATING WATTS & SON, Est. 1846

Also at READING (Tel. 50255)
CAVERHAM (Tel. Reading 72877)
HIGH WYCOMBE (Tel. 847)

EAST BERKSHIRE

WITHIN ABOUT 1 MILE OF MAIN-LINE STATION FOR PADDINGTON
A lavishly equipped double-fronted detached house in quiet but accessible
position.



4 principal and 2 second-
ary bedrooms, 2 well-
equipped half-tiled bath-
rooms (one with shower),
lounge hall, cloakroom,
charming lounge with orna-
mental wrought-iron gates
to dining room, compact
modern offices. Garaging
for 3 and exceptionally
secluded grounds, includ-
ing large lawns, water gar-
den, orchard and kitchen
garden, in all just over
2 ACRES, with valuable
long road frontage. (Would
be sold with less land if
preferred.)

Price for the whole £6,000 freehold, or £5,500 freehold with about 1¼ ACRES.

AN IMMEDIATE SALE IS REQUIRED AND CONSEQUENTLY ALL
OFFERS WILL BE GENUINELY CONSIDERED

Inspected and strongly recommended by the Sole Local Agents, MARTIN & POLE,
Wokingham.

A GENUINE

BLACK & WHITE SIXTEENTH CENTURY COTTAGE

Ideally situated about 2 miles from Wokingham, on the bus route and close to main-line
station for Waterloo.

Recently restored, en-
larged and completely
modernised regardless
of expense, but still
retaining the whole of
its characteristic fea-
tures.

3 bedrooms, bathroom,
2 reception rooms with
parquet flooring, up-to-
the-minute kitchen with
utility room adjoining.
Garage and long garden.

PRICE £4,850
FREEHOLD

Recommended by the Sole Agents, MARTIN & POLE, Wokingham.

A DOUBLE FRONTED DETACHED BUNGALOW

On the bus route, only 1 mile from Wokingham.

2 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen. Garage and garden of nearly
½ ACRE. Main services. PRICE £2,850 FREEHOLD.

Sole Agents: MARTIN & POLE, Wokingham.

23, MOUNT STREET,
GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

WILSON & CO.

GROSVENOR
1441

KENT AND SUSSEX BORDERS

Perfect rural position with fine views on outskirts of picturesque old village noted for its period houses. Easy reach of the sea and golf course.



MELLOWED QUEEN ANNE HOUSE

All in first-class order with main services, central heating and Aga. 5 beds (basins, h. and c.), 2 baths, lounge hall, 3 reception. Garage and outbuildings. Pretty garden and orchard 2 acres. **£5,950 FREEHOLD**

RURAL EAST SUSSEX

Magnificent views to Downs. Ideally suitable for Hotel, Nursing Home, etc., or for private residential use. Etchingham station 5 miles (London 70 minutes).



BUCKSTEEP MANOR, DALLINGTON

11 beds, 4 baths, 5 reception. Oil-fired heating. Aga. Basins in beds. Garage and stabling. Hard court. Paddock. **7 ACRES. AUCTION NOVEMBER 30.** Mortgagees will accept very reasonable price for the Freehold.

WILTSHIRE DOWNS £4,950 Freehold
Between Salisbury and Devizes. Outskirts of village. Fine views. Completely rural. Easy reach main line.



CHARMING SMALL GEORGIAN HOUSE WITH SELF-CONTAINED FARMHOUSE-STYLE WING
3-4 beds, tiled bath, 3 reception, wing has 2 beds, bath, 2 reception with separate entrance. Main electricity. Garage for 2. Barn and outbuildings. Matured walled gardens and paddocks. **IDEAL SMALLHOLDING WITH 4 ACRES**

ESTATE OFFICES

5, GRAFTON STREET, OLD BOND STREET, LONDON, W.1
And at Tottenham Court Road, W.1.

Tel.: HYDE PARK 4685

SILCHESTER COMMON, NEAR READING

45 miles London. 8 miles Basingstoke.

RECENTLY CONVERTED COUNTRY MANSION



Expertly divided and modernised into three unusual residences.

4 bedrooms (2 with basins), boxroom, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, study, cloakroom.

Partial central heating.

Small garden but more land available.

FREEHOLD £3,800

MAPLE & CO., LTD. HYDE PARK 4685.

CLOSE TO SUNNINGDALE GOLF COURSE

40 minutes Waterloo, near shops and station.

GENTLEMAN'S COUNTRY RESIDENCE



5 principal bedrooms with 2 bathrooms, panelled lounge hall with cloakroom, 2 reception rooms, excellent domestic offices.

Staff quarters, comprising: bedroom, sitting room and bathroom.

Garage for 3-4 cars.

Almost 1 ACRE with tennis lawn.

ONLY £4,500 LEASEHOLD

MAPLE & CO., LTD. HYDE PARK 4685.

WINCHESTER
FLEET
FARNBOROUGH

ALFRED PEARSON & SON

HARTLEY WINTNEY
ALDERSHOT
ALRESFORD

TO BE LET FURNISHED

In quiet unspoilt position close to Hampshire village. 1½ miles main line station (Waterloo 1 hour).

CHARMING CONVERTED PUBLIC HOUSE

Beautifully furnished and with central heating throughout from Janitor boiler. 5 bedrooms (all h. and c.), 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Garage and easily maintained garden.

RENT 10 GUINEAS PER WEEK

Hartley Wintney Office (Tel. 233).

WANTED

In North Hampshire.

A really first class modern residence containing: 4-5 bedrooms and usual outbuildings. Only a small formal garden is needed but a small farm and additional land would be an advantage.

UP TO £10,000 WOULD BE PAID FOR A SUITABLE PROPERTY

Hartley Wintney Office (Tel. 233).

OWNER PURCHASED ELSEWHERE ANXIOUS TO SELL

VERY SUITABLE LONDON BUSINESS MAN

1½ miles to main line station (Waterloo under the hour).

WELL-BUILT DETACHED RESIDENCE IN QUIET ROAD

5 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, 2 RECEPTION ROOMS. GOOD DOMESTIC OFFICES

The principal rooms are of good size. Double built-on garage.

MAIN SERVICES

Easily run grounds of 1 ACRE with lawn for tennis court.

Rateable value £37.

FREEHOLD £4,300
or near offer.

Fleet Office (Tel. 1066).

AN

ATTRACTIVE PERIOD COTTAGE

In a delightful situation adjoining open country and on the edge of an old world Hampshire town.

3 bedrooms, bathroom, sitting room, kitchen, workshop. Main services. Small formal garden. Kitchen garden and detached garage.

FREEHOLD £2,650

Hartley Wintney Office (Tel. 233).

HARTLEY WINTNEY

On outskirts of this favourite village within level walking distance of shopping centre.

SMALL DETACHED PERIOD RESIDENCE

4 bedrooms, bathroom, lounge-hall, 3 reception rooms, kitchen. Main services.

Small range of outbuildings and pretty garden.

FREEHOLD £3,950

Hartley Wintney Office (Tel. 233).

ORMISTON, KNIGHT & PAYNE

RINGWOOD, HANTS. Tel. 311

And at Bournemouth, Brockenhurst, Barton-on-Sea, Highcliffe and Ferndown.

NEW FOREST, Superb Position on High Ground

"SHOBLEY HOUSE," NEAR RINGWOOD, HANTS.

2 miles from town centre, off main bus route on open Forest.



A particularly well equipped compactly planned house of undoubted attraction, in perfect order throughout.

Containing: hall, 2 reception rooms, dining room, kitchen and maids' room, 4 bedrooms, 3 dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms.

Automatic gas central heating.

Main water, gas and electricity. Low rates.

GARAGE FOR 4 CARS

ATTRACTIVE EASILY KEPT GROUNDS OF 1½ ACRES, with greenhouse, and other outbuildings.

PRICE £5,850 FREEHOLD

WELLESLEY-SMITH & CO.

17, BLAGRAVE STREET, READING. Reading 54018 and 54019

LOVELY SMALL PERIOD HOUSE, £5,750

30 MINUTES MOTOR RUN OF OXFORD AND READING

Just out of a quiet village, under 3 miles of main line station.

FEW BUT FINE ROOMS

Without low ceilings. Open fireplaces and other features.

Small galleried hall, cloakroom, 3 sitting. Compact offices, 3 main bedrooms, bathroom, 2 other bedrooms (or housekeeper's suite of sitting room and bedroom).

Main electricity, power and water, Aga cooker.



GARAGE FOR 2 CARS AND GOOD OUTBUILDINGS

Orchard setting garden very easily maintained, and paddock.

NEARLY 2 ACRES FREEHOLD

Rates (including water) under £29 for the half year.

JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

WANTED TO PURCHASE

AN AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTING ESTATE OF UP TO 2,000 ACRES

WITH A LARGE RESIDENCE, PREFERABLY OF THE **GEORGIAN** PERIOD, TOGETHER WITH A DOWER HOUSE CONTAINING AT LEAST 7 BEDROOMS, IS REQUIRED BY A CLIENT OF

JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

A FARM of SOME 200 to 500 ACRES IN HAND is ESSENTIAL as well as FIRST-CLASS SPORTING FACILITIES

DISTRICTS PREFERRED ARE THE MIDLANDS, COTSWOLDS, OR IN GOOD HUNTING COUNTRY IN THE NORTH.

This enquiry is urgent and principals or their agents with available properties are asked to submit brief details to **JOHN D. WOOD & CO.**, 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1 (Ref. R.H.R.).

All replies will be treated in confidence and no commission is required.

By direction of **MAJOR SIR DUNCAN McCALLUM, M.P.**

ARGYLLSHIRE

Taynuilt 10 miles, on main sleeping-coach line London-Glasgow.

THE ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL FARMING AND FORESTRY ESTATE

ARDANASEIG, 3,400 ACRES

THE WHOLE WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Sheep and Attested Cattle Farms **TERVINE**, **BALLIMORE** and **HAYFIELD**. Valuable **timber plantations** (undecided), 232 acres and extensive plantable acreage.

ARDANASEIG HOUSE: 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, 7 bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 staff bedrooms, and bathroom. Central heating throughout. Main electricity.

TERVINE HOUSE: 2 reception rooms, study, 3 bedrooms, bathroom.

Farm manager's house. 7 service cottages. Main electricity. Fully modernised (except one cottage).

SALMON AND TROUT FISHERIES. MIXED LOW GROUND SHOOTING

Sole Selling Agents: **JOHN D. WOOD & CO.**, 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.



TO BE LET UNFURNISHED ON LEASE BETWEEN

GODALMING and CHIDDINGFOLD

UNDER AN HOUR BY RAIL FROM WATERLOO. Delightful position 400 feet up facing due south on a southern slope commanding lovely panoramic views to the South Downs.



THIS BEAUTIFUL QUEEN ANNE HOUSE

approached by carriage drive with lodge entrance, contains 7 principal bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms and fine suite of reception rooms. Main electricity and water. Attractive but inexpensive grounds. STABLES AND GARAGE. If required, the **HOME FARM** of 145 acres with cowhouse for 30 and 2 cottages can be rented, but not apart from the house.

Inspected and strongly recommended by **JOHN D. WOOD & CO.**, 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (C.22134)

MID-SUSSEX

1 mile main line station (London under an hour), near bus route.

GRADE A ATTESTED DAIRY FARM 168 ACRES

with modernised **Sussex-style residence** containing 2 SITTING ROOMS, 4 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM.

Main electricity and water.

PAIR OF COTTAGES

each with bathroom, electricity and water.

WELL-PLANNED BUILDINGS, ties for 24. Water to most fields. 58 acres woodland.

SUBSTANTIAL TAX BENEFITS FROM IMPROVEMENTS

Recommended by the Agents: **JOHN D. WOOD AND CO.**, 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.

(C.33855)

For Sale with Vacant Possession

THE ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL FARM OF

KILDALLOIG

CAMPBELTOWN, ARGYLLSHIRE



With good air service. **ABOUT 985 ACRES**, with sea frontage and including **Davnaar Isle** (142 acres). Well suited for stock rearing. **ALL IN HAND**. Completely modern house with central heating throughout and main electricity. 3 reception rooms, 5 principal bedrooms, gun room. 3 cottages. Boathouse. **MIXED SHOOTING**.

Sole Selling Agents: **JOHN D. WOOD & CO.**, 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.

BUCKS AND BEDS BORDER

ASPLEY HOUSE, ASPLEY GUISE

On the confines of an old-world village. Station 1½ miles, Blitchley 6 miles (London 1 hour). On bus route. Sandy loam soil.

The subject of an illustrated article in "Country Life."



This beautiful and historic Wren House with very fine panelling, stands in nicely timbered parkland and grounds of about **13 ACRES**

The house is being used as two dwellings, but easily re-converted. One contains hall, 3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms and 3 attics; the other with separate entrance contains hall, 2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom and 2 attics.

Central heating throughout. Main electricity, water and drainage.

Service cottage with 2 bed., bath., sitting room, kitchen, w.c. Garage and stabling.

For Sale at a reasonable price.

Strongly recommended by **JOHN D. WOOD & CO.**, 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (40368)

HENLEY-ON-THAMES

ON THE EDGE OF THE TOWN ADJOINING BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY

AN ATTRACTIVE EARLY GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

With charming interiors, classical columns, oak floors, carved pine and marble fireplaces, richly moulded ceilings, and fully modernised.

Lounge hall, 3 panelled reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, staff flat with bathroom.

Central heating.

All main services.

Garages and stabling.



Kitchen garden and delightful walled grounds.

OVER 3½ ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Agents: **JOHN D. WOOD & CO.**, 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (R.52399)

MAYfair 6341
(10 lines)

23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

Telegrams:
"Wood, Agents, Wesdo, London"

44, ST. JAMES'S
PLACE, S.W.1**STYLES, WHITLOCK & PETERSEN**

(Formerly JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, LONDON)

HYDe Park
0911-2-3-4**BANBURY DISTRICT**

(FRESH IN THE MARKET)

*About 60 miles from London and most convenient for Banbury (under 10 miles), with its splendid train services to London and the North.***A MOST ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY WITH ABOUT 101 ACRES AND 4 COTTAGES (MODERNISED AND ALL HAVING BATHROOMS) IS****FOR SALE WITH VACANT POSSESSION****THE RESIDENCE**, which is in splendid order and modernised, faces south, commands beautiful views, occupies a rural position away from main roads, 400 feet above sea level and well situated for hunting.**HALL AND 3 SITTING ROOMS, DAY AND NIGHT NURSERIES, 9-10 BEDROOMS, 4 BATHROOMS AND EXCELLENT OFFICES, INCLUDING KITCHEN WITH 4-OVEN AGA COOKER***Services: Central heating throughout. Mains electricity and power. Coy's water. Independent hot water. Septic tank drainage. Telephone. Lavatory basins in many bedrooms and bathrooms.*

Simple but attractive gardens (one man for upkeep) and highly productive enclosures of pasture and arable land.

This attractive proposition has been inspected and is recommended by the Owner's Sole Agents:
STYLES, WHITLOCK & PETERSEN, 44, ST. JAMES'S PLACE, S.W.1. (L.R.25,924)**WEST SUSSEX—HAMPSHIRE BORDER****FOR SALE: A MODERN, GEORGIAN STYLE, COUNTRY RESIDENCE**

In first-rate order 400 ft. above sea level, southern aspect, panoramic views of South Downs, close to bus service and 2½ miles from small market town with fast train service to London and South Coast; light soil.

Accommodation: Hall and 3 sitting rooms, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and usual offices. Aga cooker. Janitor boiler. Main electricity and power. Company's water. Partial central heating. Garage for 2 cars. Simple gardens, terrace, lawns, etc., and tract of woodland.

TOTAL AREA ABOUT 10 ACRES**PRICE FREEHOLD £8,000**Inspected and recommended by the Sole Agents: **STYLES, WHITLOCK & PETERSEN, 44, ST. JAMES'S PLACE, S.W.1. (L.R.27,799)****DORSET—SOMERSET BORDER***Easy reach Gillingham, Wincanton, and Templecombe. Situated on outskirts of small country town.***STONE-BUILT COUNTRY HOUSE IN PARKLIKE SURROUNDINGS**

Excellent reception rooms, 4 main and 2 secondary bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, modern domestic offices, cloakroom; all main services, domestic hot water; mature gardens, hard tennis court, about 5 acres in all; stabling and garage.

**PRICE FREEHOLD £5,950**Inspected by **STYLES, WHITLOCK & PETERSEN, 44, ST. JAMES'S PLACE, LONDON, S.W.1. (L.R.27,777)****FARMS FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION**

COUNTY	BED	PERIOD	COTTAGES	ACREAGE	PRICE
KENT	7	Georgian	6	350	£27,500
W. SUSSEX	7	Old	2	167	£17,000
GLOS.	7	17th century	3	110	£11,500
BUCKS.	6	17th century	2	285	£17,500
S.W. SURREY	4	18th century	1	75	£15,000
MID-SUSSEX	4	Modern	2	168	£20,000

BETWEEN HASLEMERE & WITLEY*Haslemere 3 miles, London 55 minutes.***CHARMING GENUINE 16th-CENTURY TIMBER-FRAMED HOUSE**

accessible yet secluded amongst farmlands.

3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, Aga cooker. Agamatic boiler. Main services. 2 garages. Lovely garden, ¾ ACRE. **FREEHOLD £5,950**Photographs and particulars: **STYLES, WHITLOCK AND PETERSEN, 44, ST. JAMES'S PLACE, S.W.1. (L.R.27,656)**20, HIGH STREET,
HASLEMERE (Tel. 1207-8)**H. B. BAVERSTOCK & SON**

ESTATE OFFICES, GODALMING (Tel. 1722, 5 lines)

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FARNHAM (Tel. 5274-5)**LIPHOOK, HAMPSHIRE**

Facing due south with rural outlook over fields. Easy walking distance of village and station (Waterloo/Portsmouth line). Golf course 1 mile.

**ARTISTIC ARCHITECT DESIGNED COTTAGE** 3½ bed., bathroom, 2½ rec., compact offices with staff room. All main services. Garage. Picturesque garden of ½ ACRE adjoining farmland.**FREEHOLD £3,550 WITH POSSESSION**
Haslemere Office.**HASLEMERE, SURREY**

In magnificent position 700 ft. up, facing south with views to the Downs. Station 2 miles (Waterloo 55 minutes).

**PICTURESQUE MODERN HOUSE** built in the best materials with oak joinery throughout. 4 bed., (2 basins), bathroom, cloak., 2 rec., maid's or breakfast room. Loggia. S.C. guest's annex. Main services. Garage, etc. Secluded timbered grounds of 2¼ ACRES include swimming pool.**FREEHOLD £6,950. POSSESSION**
Haslemere Office.**FARNHAM, SURREY,**

In a quiet cul-de-sac on south side of the town. Station (electric to Waterloo) under ½ mile.

**A CHOICE MODERN RESIDENCE, 4 bedrooms** (1 basin), boxroom, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, entrance hall, sun lodge, wood kitchen, etc. All main services. Built-in garage. Matured garden about ½ ACRE.**FREEHOLD £5,350 WITH POSSESSION**
Farnham Office.**WILLIAM H. BROWN & SON**Chartered Auctioneers and Estate Agents
NORTHGATE HOUSE, SLEAFORD, Lincs (Tel. 447/8)**LINCOLNSHIRE****ESLAFORDE HOUSE, SLEAFORD****A DELIGHTFUL COUNTRY RESIDENCE** in a splendid position near to the town.

On the borders of the Lincolnshire and Belvoir Hunt. Modernised and in perfect order.

3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen with Euse cooker, 2 conservatories. Heated glasshouse. Convenient Domestic offices.

Central heating and all main services.

GARAGES AND STABLES
En-Tout-Gas Tennis Court.
Lovely grounds. Grass paddock.**TOTAL AREA 3 ACRES**
with possibility of renting further 8 acres of grass adjoining.For Sale by Private Treaty
WITH POSSESSION
Printed particulars from the Auctioneers.ASHFORD
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TUNBRIDGE WELLS (996), KENT: RYE (3155), HEATHFIELD (533), AND WADHURST (393), SUSSEX

FIRST TIME IN THE MARKET FOR OVER 30 YEARS.**IN FAVOURITE VILLAGE****3 MILES TUNBRIDGE WELLS***Excellent bus services, etc.*

The Picturesque 16th century Kentish Farm-house Residence in charming unspoilt setting.

6 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom. Charming oak-framed 23 ft. lounge, dining room, study, entirely separate domestic quarters.

ALL MAIN SERVICES.**CENTRAL HEATING.**

Garage.

Excellent outbuildings.

**ATTRACTIVE GARDEN** (easily maintained).

Apply, Tunbridge Wells.

WINKWORTH & CO.

Acting in conjunction with

GOODMAN & MANN

The Home of the late Alfred Ezra Esq., O.B.E., F.Z.S.

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AMIDST SURREY COMMONS 18 MILES LONDON, REACHED FROM MAIN PORTSMOUTH ROAD, EASILY ACCESSIBLE TO COBHAM AND WEYBRIDGE STATIONS.

THE WELL-KNOWN FREEHOLD COUNTRY ESTATE FOXWARREN PARK COBHAM



THE BEAUTIFUL RESIDENCE OCCUPIES AN UNIQUE POSITION IN THE HOME COUNTIES, ON HIGH GROUND OVERLOOKING WISLEY COMMON AND COMMANDING SUPERB VIEWS OVER SURREY

THE GROUNDS AND AVIARIES ARE AMONG THE FINEST IN THE COUNTRY



ELEGANT
RECEPTION ROOMS
facing south on to the terraced
gardens.

PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS
in suites.

3 FARMS



OIL-FIRED CENTRAL HEATING AND DOMESTIC HOT WATER SUPPLY
AMPLE OUTBUILDINGS, STABLES AND 2 FLATS. SQUASH COURT. HARD TENNIS COURT.
ORNAMENTAL TIMBER AND SHRUBS, ANCIENT CEDARS AND LONG LAWNS WITH VISTAS.
PROLIFIC WALLED KITCHEN GARDEN WITH GREENHOUSES

OVER 300 ACRES

ATTESTED AND T.T. FARM BUILDINGS FOR PEDIGREE DAIRY HERD. 3 FARM HOUSES. 12 COTTAGES
PARTLY BOUNDED BY THE RIVER WEY

VALUABLE LONG ROAD FRONTAGES

FOR SALE PRIVATELY NOW OR BY AUCTION LATER

Vendor's Solicitors: Messrs. GUILLAUME & SONS, Weybourne, Portmore Park Road, Weybridge (Weybridge 3206); and at 1, Salisbury Square, London, E.C.4.
(Tel.: FLEet Street 5162) and at Bournemouth.

Joint Auctioneers:

MESSRS. GOODMAN & MANN, 2, ST. JAMES'S PLACE, LONDON, S.W.1 (GROsvenor 1916);
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(Entrance in Sackville Street)

F. L. MERCER & CO.

SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY HOUSES

Telephones:
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A REALLY FINE MODERNISED PERIOD COTTAGE

In quiet village convenient for Huntingdon, Bedford and Cambridge with express trains to Kings Cross 1½ hours.

IN IMMACULATE CONDITION AND READY FOR IMMEDIATE OCCUPATION

Quaint period features combined with all modern comforts, large rooms and high ceilings.



3 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, bathroom. Central heating. Main electric light and power. Company's water. Main drainage. Telephone. Raftered ceilings, open fireplaces, fitted wardrobes and cupboards throughout. Picturesque barn suitable for garage or studio. Self-supporting garden with hard and soft fruit; vegetables and seasonal flowers all completely screened.

Extremely good value at **£4,750**. Rates £7 per annum. This charming small property is highly recommended to purchasers requiring a small but attractive property easy, and economical to run.

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Tel.: Regent 2481.

IN THE "LITTLE SWITZERLAND" OF SURREY

Lovely view over richly wooded grounds and valley below. 17 MILES LONDON. Unique hillside site is occupied by this comfortably appointed FAMILY HOUSE. Lounge hall, 3 receptions, oak panelling and floors, 4 principal bedrooms and 2 bathrooms on first floor, large games room and another bedroom above. Colonial-style balcony at first floor level. Partial central heating. Aga cooker. Agamatic boiler. All public services. Double garage. Cumberland turf tennis court. Contour of site will not suit those who insist on a level garden.

£5,850 WITH 2½ ACRES

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

AT SEATON, SOUTH DEVON

Attractively situated. Facing south. 300 feet up.

Warm climate. Lovely view over the Axe Valley. ½ mile from centre of this popular small coastal resort. A GOOD-LOOKING MODERN HOUSE. Brick built with tiled roof. Recently redecorated. 3 receptions (lounge is 15 ft. by 14 ft.), 4 bedrooms (basins), bathroom. Compactly planned on 2 floors. Main services. Garage. Charming, matured and partly terraced garden and orchard. About ¾ ACRE. Rateable value £52.

FOR SALE AT £5,000

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

NEW FOREST Between LYNDHURST AND ROMSEY

Secured and protected position. HANDY FOR SALISBURY, WINCHESTER AND BOURNEMOUTH. A house mainly of the Georgian and Victorian eras. With spacious but not too many rooms. 33 ft. drawing room with oak parquet floor, 2 other receptions, cloakroom, 5 large bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms. Cooking by Esser. Complete central heating from oil-fired boiler. Main water. Own electric light but main expected early 1956. Double garage. Grandly timbered gardens, orchard, woodland and small paddock. **WITH 3½ ACRES £5,850**

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

AN ELEGANT MODERN HOUSE AT VIRGINIA WATER, SURREY CLOSE TO WENTWORTH GOLF COURSES. In an exclusive private estate. 23 MILES LONDON. Beautifully sited on light soil; in richly wooded grounds of 1¼ acres. Built by Tarrants, extremely well appointed and of the highest quality. Fine lounge with extension for grand piano; dining room. Oak floors, 5 or 6 bedrooms, 2 baths. Central heating. 3 car services. Double garage with large extra bedroom above. Lovely stone-paved sun terrace and complete seclusion. A HOME OF EXCEPTIONAL CHARM AND CHARACTER OFFERED FOR SALE AT A MODERATE PRICE

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

UNIQUE PROPERTY

ON THE SURREY AND HAMPSHIRE BORDERS BETWEEN FARNHAM AND LIPHOOK. 7 MILES FROM HASLEMERE

Secluded but by no means isolated, approached from the road by a winding drive and adjoining well protected farmlands.

Architect-designed house of distinctive character. On 2 floors.

With a well-planned interior possessing unusual features. Attractive entrance hall, 3 reception rooms, 4 or 5 bedrooms, bathroom. Main electric light and power. Company's water. Immersion heater. Rayburn cooker. Detached garage. Well laid out secluded gardens including tennis lawn and a small area of woodland, the whole extremely easy and economical to maintain.



ABOUT 2 ACRES. PRICE FREEHOLD £4,950

Good educational facilities. Excellent riding in the district.

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., 40, Piccadilly, W.1. Tel. Regent 2481.

WEST SUSSEX

Between Pulborough and Arundel

In picturesque old village. Off main road. Views of South Downs and Bury Hill.

A MOST CAPTIVATING COTTAGE HOME mostly 350 years old. Restored, enlarged and modernised at considerable cost. Lounge, dining room, 3 bedrooms, modern bathroom and kitchen. Wealth of oak beams but no low ceilings. In excellent decorative order. Main water, electric light and power. Garage. Rates under £10 for half year. Pretty garden and small paddock. A PROPERTY WITH A LOT OF CHARM. **ABOUT 1 ACRE. FOR SALE AT £4,250**

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

1 HOUR LONDON

VIA HASLEMERE (6 MILES)

West Surrey beauty spot near the Devil's Jumps. 400 feet above sea level on sandy soil.

LOVELY SETTING. WILL APPEAL TO LOVERS OF TREES AND THE MOORLAND TYPE OF COUNTRY. Architect-designed house erected 1928 by best builders in district. Lounge, dining room, sun room, 5 bedrooms, 2 baths and dressing room. (On 2 floors.) Central heating. Main services. 2 garages. SWIMMING POOL OF ARTISTIC DESIGN. Pretty, terraced garden. WOODLAND AND HEATHER PLANTATION.

FOR SALE WITH 2 ACRES

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

16, CORNMARKE STREET, OXFORD. Tel. 4151 (3 lines).

BUCKELL & BALLARD

4, ST. MARTIN'S STREET, WALLINGFORD. Tel. 3205

WITH MAGNIFICENT VIEWS OVER THE THAMES VALLEY



Oxford 15, Goring main-line station 4 miles.

Hall, cloakroom, lounge/dining room (28 ft. by 18 ft.), study, 4 bedrooms (with basins), boxroom, bathroom, kitchen with Aga.

GARAGE

Main services.

FULL CENTRAL HEATING

1¼ ACRES

£5,750 FREEHOLD

BETWEEN OXFORD AND BANBURY

Listed as a property of special architectural interest.

A VERY CHARMING GEORGIAN HOUSE

in impeccable order.

6 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS, 4 RECEPTION ROOMS, MODERNISED KITCHEN QUARTERS.

Main services and part central heating.

Beautiful garden and paddock of **ABOUT 2 ACRES**

Low Rates.

AN EXCEPTIONAL PROPERTY WHICH IS VERY HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

TELE. SEVENOAKS 2246 (4 lines)
TUNBRIDGE WELLS 446/7
OXFORD 240 & 1166
REIGATE 5441/2

IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO.

SEVENOAKS, KENT
TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT
OXFORD, SURREY
REIGATE, SURREY

KENT—LONDON 30 MILES

Between Maidstone and Tonbridge.



FREEHOLD £4,500

Owner's Agents: IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO., Sevenoaks (Tel. 2246, 4 lines).

NEAR CROCKHAM HILL ON SURREY & KENT BORDERS

4 miles Oxted Station, with London in 40 minutes.

Charming Modernised Cottage-style Residence

In a beautiful secluded part, overlooking farmland. 3 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms. Garage. Outbuildings.

ALMOST 4 ACRES PRICE FREEHOLD £3,750

Recommended by IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO., Station Road East, Oxted (Tel. 240 and 1166).

NEAR SEVENOAKS—25 MINUTES OF LONDON

Few minutes' walk Seal village, with town and station bus services.

SECLUDED COUNTRY RESIDENCE

In woodland setting.

5 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, breakfast room, kitchen, hall with cloakroom.

Main water, gas and electricity.

Complete central heating.

BRICK GARAGE

Excellent greenhouse.

Garden, lawns and woodland, **2 ACRES.**



FREEHOLD £5,650

IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO., Sevenoaks (Tel. 2246, 4 lines).

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL

Between the village and the famous golf course. ½ mile station; 40 minutes London

Most attractive creeper-clad modern Residence.

6 bedrooms, 1 dressing room, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Garage. Central heating throughout.

2 ACRES

Very inexpensive upkeep.

FREEHOLD ONLY £7,950. VACANT POSSESSION

Trustees' Agents: IBBETT, MOSELY, CARD & CO., 67, High Street, Reigate (Tel. 5441-2).



BOURNEMOUTH
SOUTHAMPTON

FOX & SONS

BRIGHTON
WORTHING

By order of the Executors of F. J. N. Bastable, Esq.
ENJOYING MAGNIFICENT DOWNLAND VIEWS
BURY, WEST SUSSEX

A delightful rural setting 5 miles from Arundel and Pulborough. 2 miles Amberley Station—main Portsmouth-London electric line.



Lot 1. An exceptionally attractive modern Detached Freehold Tudor-style Residence, known as **LEAWOOD, BURY.** 4 bedrooms, 2 well-fitted bathrooms, 3 fine reception rooms, entrance hall, cloakroom, compact domestic offices, Garage. Beautifully laid out and well-timbered grounds of about **9 ACRES.** Further 6½ acres available if required.

Lot 2. The Modern Nursery adjoining. 15,420 sq. ft. heated glass.

Excellent brick-built packing shed, cowstalls, stabling and other outbuildings. Fertile market garden land of **10½ ACRES.** **Vacant Possession.**
Auction Sale, Tudor Room, Warnes Hotel, Worthing, Thurs., Dec. 15, 1955.
Solicitors: Messrs. VINCENT H. O. JACKSON & SON, Midland Bank Chambers, Littlehampton and 3-4, Colonnade House, High Street, Worthing.
Auctioneers: FOX & SONS, 41, Chapel Road, Worthing. Tel. 6120.

SOUTH DEVON

4 miles from the coast at Seaton, 6 miles Axminster.

**A MOST CHARMING 17th-CENTURY SMALL RESIDENCE**

Equipped and modernised regardless of expense.

4 bedrooms, bathroom, lounge 24 ft. by 12 ft., dining room, kitchen.

Electric lighting plant.

Garages. Cowstalls, good buildings. Pleasure garden. Pastureland.

22 ACRES

PRICE £7,500 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 6300.

SUSSEX

In a delightful position in a lovely part of the county and within 5 miles of the kennels of the Southdown Foxhounds, Lewes 7 miles, Eastbourne and Brighton 15 miles.
AN EXCEPTIONALLY WELL-APPOINTED COUNTRY RESIDENCE



In good decorative order and ready for occupation. 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, playroom, 3 excellent reception rooms, staff room, cloakroom, well-equipped kitchen. Main electricity, power and water. Central heating. Excellent stabling. Large garage and other buildings. Delightful, well-maintained gardens with putting or tennis lawn, swimming pool, flower beds, shrubs and trees, kitchen garden and orchard.

In all about 1 ACRE; more land could possibly be acquired.

PRICE £4,950 FREEHOLD (or near offer).

FOX & SONS, 117 and 118, Western Road, Brighton. Tel.: Hove 39201 (7 lines).

DORSET—WILT'S BORDER

1½ miles Shaftesbury, 20 miles Salisbury: Bournemouth and Bath 30 miles equidistant.
THE UNIQUE ULTRA MODERN FREEHOLD RESIDENCE



4 bedrooms (3 with basins h. and e.), dressing room, bathroom, lounge, dining room, study, garden room and sun loggia, cloakroom with shower, kitchen and good offices. Central heating. Main electricity and water. Septic tank drainage. 2 garages. Greenhouse. The grounds are attractively laid out with lawns and flower borders, many fruit trees, productive kitchen garden, paddock and woodland, total area about **11½ ACRES**
Vacant Possession.

PRICE £9,000 FREEHOLD

FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth (Tel. 6300).

SUSSEX

In a delightful position on high ground within 4 miles of Uckfield. Buxted Station 2 miles. Easy reach Tunbridge Wells.
AN EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE 15th-CENTURY RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER



Carefully modernised, and having many interesting features. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge, dining room, well-equipped kitchen. Main electricity and water. Septic tank drainage. Central heating. Well maintained gardens. Garage and other buildings. Excellent model T.T. Farmery with modern buildings, including standings for eight cows.

COTTAGE. Large orchard, and meadowland, in all **ABOUT 16 ACRES**
Vacant Possession of the whole. PRICE £12,500 FREEHOLD
FOX & SONS, 117 and 118, Western Road, Brighton. Tel.: Hove 39201.

By Order of Lord Llewellyn, P.C., G.B.E., M.C., T.D., M.A., D.L.

POOLE, DORSET

Poole 2 miles, 5 miles Wimborne, 6 miles Wareham.

PICTURESQUE FREEHOLD RESIDENCE**CREEKMOOR HOUSE, POOLE**

6 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, kitchen, offices, 2 garages. Stabling. Outbuildings. Main electricity and water. Gardens, orchard, paddocks. Total area about **8 ACRES.** Restricted against all building for 20 years and industrial development in perpetuity.

Vacant Possession.



TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION ON NOVEMBER 24, 1955 (unless previously sold by private treaty).

Solicitors: Messrs. WIGAN & Co., 19, Surrey Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.
Auctioneers: Messrs. FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. (Tel. 6300).

CRAWLEY, NEAR WINCHESTER

Occupying a delightful site about 4 miles Stockbridge and 5 miles Winchester.
CHARMING GABLED COTTAGE

Capable of improvement and with planning permission for two dwelling houses.

3 bedrooms, boxroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen. Main electricity and water.

Walled-in garden. GREENHOUSES OUTBUILDINGS Market garden and building sites.

In all about **6¼ ACRES.**

PRICE £3,500 FREEHOLD



Sole Agents: FOX & SONS, 32, London Road, Southampton. Tel. 25155 (4 lines).

AVON VALLEY

Standing on high ground on the outskirts of Fordingbridge within easy reach of Salisbury, Southampton and Bournemouth.

SPACIOUS BUNGALOW RESIDENCE

5 bedrooms, bathroom, lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, kitchen with independent boiler.

Main electricity and water.

BRICK GARAGE AND OUTBUILDINGS

Garden of about **HALF AN ACRE.**

PRICE £4,250 FREEHOLD



Sole Agents: FOX & SONS, 32, London Road, Southampton. Tel. 25155 (4 lines).

DORSET

5 miles Wareham, 12 miles Dorchester, 17 miles Bournemouth.
ATTRACTIVE MODERN CLASSICAL STYLE RESIDENCE

Beautifully situated, providing extensive views to the Purbeck Hills.

9 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, kitchen and offices.

GARAGE 4 CARS

Range of buildings.

Electric lighting plant. Septic tank drainage.

Gardens and grounds of about **6 ACRES.**

PRICE £3,950 FREEHOLD



Additional land can be purchased if required.

FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. (Tel. 6300).

UPPER BASSETT, SOUTHAMPTON

Situated about 360 ft. above sea level in one of the finest residential areas in the district. Close to excellent golf courses. Romsey 5 miles. Winchester 9 miles.
THE MODERN FREEHOLD RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER

SPINNEY CORNER, BASSETT AVENUE.

Well appointed throughout with oak strip flooring to ground floor. 4 bedrooms (2 with basins), boxroom, half tiled bathroom, excellent lounge, dining room, sun lounge, cloakroom, well equipped kitchen and scullery.

2 GARAGES

All main services. Secluded garden with tennis lawn, in all about **HALF AN ACRE.**



OFFERS INVITED PRIOR TO AUCTION IN DECEMBER

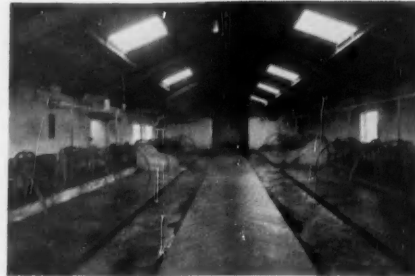
Solicitors: Messrs. LAMPORT, BASSETT & HISCOCK, 46, The Avenue, Southampton.
Auctioneers: Messrs. FOX & SONS, 32, London Road, Southampton. Tel. 25155 (4 lines).

Tel. MAYfair
0023-4**R. C. KNIGHT & SONS**130, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1**KENT**

Within easy reach of first-class markets at Ashford and Canterbury and situated amidst very lovely country.
A SOUND AGRICULTURAL AND RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY OF UNUSUAL CHARM AND CHARACTER



Comprising:
A SUPERBLY APPOINTED MODERN RESIDENCE
 Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, model labour-saving domestic offices, 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Main water and electricity. Central heating.
GARAGES AND USUAL OUTBUILDINGS
 3 COTTAGES
 Excellent range of farm buildings, many of which are new, including T.T. and Attested cowshed for 32.
180 ACRES
 of productive land with water piped to all but 3 fields.
STRONGLY RECOMMENDED TO PURCHASERS seeking a really luxurious home together with a sound farm which can be run as an economic proposition. Large capital improvements claim.



Illustrated particulars from the Sole Agents: Messrs. R. C. KNIGHT & SONS, 130, Mount Street, London, W.1 (Tel.: Mayfair 0023-4).
 And at NORWICH, STOWMARKET, BURY ST. EDMUNDS, CAMBRIDGE, HADLEIGH and HOLT

**GASCOIGNE-PEES**

SURBITON, LEATHERHEAD, DORKING, REIGATE, GUILDFORD, EPSOM

**COMPLETE RURAL SECLUSION**
Exceptional features at low price.

750 ft. up near Leith Hill. Dorking 5 miles. Perfect modern **COUNTRY HOUSE** offering 5 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, 2 bathrooms. Double garage. Central heating. Small **SWIMMING POOL**. **STAFF COTTAGE**. 4 ACRES garden and paddock. **PRICE FREEHOLD £5,750**
 Apply: 31, South Street, Dorking. Tel. 4071/2.

SOUTHERN SLOPES OF REIGATE HILL

Quietly secluded within a few minutes walk of National Trust land and Reigate Station.

AN ARCHITECT DESIGNED DETACHED POST-WAR RESIDENCE. Entrance hall with exposed brick walls, downstairs cloakroom, dining room, "through" lounge, wood block floors to ground floor, well-appointed kitchen, 4 bedrooms, tiled bathroom. Large garage. Nicely laid out garden backing on to playing fields.
FREEHOLD £5,600. SOLE AGENTS

CLOSE TO THE LOVELY WRAY COMMON

Situated in a private made-up road in one of Reigate's favoured residential areas.

A DIGNIFIED DETACHED FAMILY RESIDENCE
 Lounge hall, cloakroom, dining room, morning room, door to conservatory, handsome drawing room, 5 principal bedrooms, dressing room, 2 secondary bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, breakfast room, kitchen. Detached garage.
 Partly walled garden of nearly 1 ACRE
FREEHOLD £5,950. SOLE AGENTS
 Apply: 6, Church Street, Reigate. Tel. 4422/3.

BETWEEN OXSHOTT AND LEATHERHEAD

A DELIGHTFUL MODERN RESIDENCE, beautifully positioned and completely secluded in a sweeping 34-acre meadow. 26 ft. by 17 ft. lounge, oak-panelled dining room, study, kitchen, 5 bed., bathroom. Double garage. **PRICE £7,850 FREEHOLD**
 Apply: 4, Bridge Street, Leatherhead (Tel. 4133-4).

SUNNINGDALE
Tel. Ascot 63 and 64**CHANCELLORS & CO.**And at Ascot
Tel. 1 and 2**AN OUTSTANDING BARGAIN AT £4,950**

A golfer's Paradise. Adjacent to 2 well-known courses in West Surrey.



A CHARMING MEDIUM-SIZED HOUSE. 6 beds., 2 baths., 3 rec., compact domestic offices. Central heating. Main services. Double garage with 2 rooms over (readily convertible to excellent cottage). **MATURED GROUNDS ABOUT 1 ACRE. FOR SALE FREEHOLD**
 Unhesitatingly recommended by Sole Agents: CHANCELLORS & Co., as above.

CLOSE TO SUNNINGDALE

In a lovely sylvan setting, 2 miles from station. Close to golf course and buses.



An artistically designed and well-appointed small MODERN HOUSE. 5 bed and dressing rooms, 2 baths., 3 rec., large playroom (or additional bedroom). Central heating. Oak floors, etc. 2 garages. **Remarkably attractive and well-kept grounds—about 1 ACRE. FOR SALE FREEHOLD**
 Very highly recommended by the Agents: CHANCELLORS & Co., as above.

BERKSHIRE

Retired situation about 3-4 miles from 2 small market towns, 1 mile station. Close to village and bus route.



A charming COTTAGE-STYLE RESIDENCE of character (part 400 years old, with exposed beams). 4 bed., bath., 2 1/3 rec., cloakroom, etc. Garages 3 cars. Very fine range of farm buildings (suitable conversion to additional accommodation). Main electricity, gas and water. Modern drainage. Very pretty garden and paddock, fringed by forest trees. **ABOUT 2 ACRES. FREEHOLD ONLY £4,000**

CONSTANCE HIGBY, WEBB & CHARD
WALTON-ON-THAMES CLAYGATE (ESHER) HINCHLEY WOOD**OXSHOTT, SURREY**

Pinewoods, heathland and woods, 2 minutes' walk.

DETACHED MODERN RESIDENCE with many special features, in about **AN ACRE** of secluded garden. "L-shaped" lounge hall (17 ft. by 10 ft. 3 in.) with Claygate fireplace, lounge with inglenook, breakfast room, study (or maid's room), well-fitted kitchen, 4 bedrooms (3 built-in furniture), luxurious bathroom, separate w.c. Large garage, summerhouse, greenhouse, potting sheds, etc. Tennis lawn; flower, heather and kitchen gardens, with natural woodland at rear. Crown Lease about 70 years. Ground rent £24 per annum.

PRICE £6,775

Apply Claygate Office, Clive House, The Parade. Tel. Esher 2323/4.

URGENTLY REQUIRED

ESHER (or within easy access). 5-bed. House; 2 large rec. essential. Usual offices. Good garage accommodation. Size of garden immaterial.
 Mrs. L., c/o Claygate Office, Clive House, The Parade. Tel. Esher 2323.

FOUR-BEDROOMED HOUSE (preferably built in the 1930s) with 2 rec. Garden. Good garage, etc. In the Cobham, Esher, Walton district. **REQUIRED WITH VACANT POSSESSION BY SPRING.**

Capt. P., c/o Claygate Office, The Parade. Tel. Esher 2323, or Walton Office, 45, High Street. Tel. Walton 2487.

CAVENDISH HOUSE

(CHELTENHAM) LTD.

ESTATE OFFICE, LITTLE PROMENADE, CHELTENHAM

GLOS—WORCS BORDERS

In a little village near Tewkesbury, 11 miles from Cheltenham and within easy motoring distance of Birmingham. **PICTURESQUE COTTAGE RESIDENCE** with old-world character in complete harmony with modern conveniences, which include main electricity and water, a constant hot-water supply and central heating. Spacious hall, 2 good reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, well-fitted bathroom and a bright kitchen. Walled garden easy to maintain and enjoying complete privacy. 2 garages. **RECOMMENDED AT £5,500.** Very low rates.

CHIPPING CAMPDEN

On the outskirts of this delightful town, generally acknowledged as the most beautiful of the North Cotswold wool towns, with its 17th-century houses. **SMALL CONTEMPORARY HOUSE** in the Cotswold tradition, with the matured atmosphere and grace of a much older place. 2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, bathroom and well-appointed kitchen. Main electricity, gas and water. Central heating and independent hot water. Matured pleasure gardens with well-stocked fruit and vegetable garden. Site for garage. **PRICE £3,750 OR OFFER.** Low rates.

WILTS.

DELIGHTFUL HOUSE OF ANTIQUITY and charm in a pretty village of 15th- and 16th-century houses, most of which are in the ownership of the National Trust. Lovely old house with handsome facade, yet completely modernised and equipped for easy maintenance. Spacious hall, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom (b. and c.), 4 principal and 2 attic bedrooms, well-appointed bathroom and good domestic offices with A.B. cooking and water-heating range. Main electricity, water and drainage. Dual hot-water system and a water-softening plant. Exceptionally pretty but comparatively small garden. Garage accommodation for 3 cars. **PRICE £6,250.**

Lewes
Ipwich
Bulth Wells
Beaulieu

STRUTT & PARKER LOFTS & WARNER

HEAD OFFICE: 41, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1 (GRO 3056)

Chelmsford
Oxford
Plymouth
Andover

BERKSHIRE

In the vale of the White Horse.

HISTORICAL MANOR HOUSE



Part dating from 14th century. Modernised without detriment to its original character. Outskirts of picturesque village in a very pleasant position. 3 reception, 8 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Main electricity. Main water available. Central heating. Also a 14th-century wool store suitable for conversion, if required, into a separate house. Modern bungalow, 3 other cottages, useful outbuildings.

IN ALL 8½ ACRES

FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION (except 3 cottages).

Apply: Head Office, as above.

BERKS—HANTS BORDERS

Between BASINGSTOKE and READING. Close to village and on bus route.

ATTRACTIVE WELL-FITTED HOUSE



being a wing of well-situated mansion originally belonging to the Duke of Wellington.

2 RECEPTION ROOMS, STUDY, 4-5 BEDROOMS (2 with basins), BATHROOM.

Main electricity and water.

OUTBUILDINGS

SMALL GARDEN

(more available if required)

£3,800

Apply: Head Office, as above.

NORFOLK

8½ miles from KING'S LYNN.

GEORGIAN FARMHOUSE ON OUTSKIRTS OF VILLAGE



HALL, 3 RECEPTION, 5 BEDROOMS, DRESSING ROOM, 2 BATHROOMS.

Main water and electricity.

Adjoining is a self-contained cottage of 2 reception, 3 bedrooms, bathroom (now let furnished).

Farm buildings.

GARAGES

Lovely garden partly walled.

FOR SALE with 15 acres at £4,750 (possession at Lady Day 1956).

An additional 110 acres adjoining available with possession if required.

Apply: Head Office, as above.

KENT—NEAR SEVENOAKS

In a lovely rural position yet easy daily reach of London.

ATTRACTIVE GEORGIAN STYLE HOUSE

with finely proportioned rooms.

Lounge hall, 3 reception, 7 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms.

Separate staff wing with bathroom.

Oil-fired central heating. Main water and electricity.

COTTAGE

Garages. Charming gardens include hard tennis court, swimming pool, vegetable garden, woodland and arable field.



28 ACRES. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION

Apply: Head Office, as above.

ESSEX—HERTS BORDERS

Bishop's Stortford 2 miles. London under 1 hour by train.

ATTRACTIVE PERIOD VILLAGE HOUSE

Well modernised and comprising:

ENTRANCE HALL, 3 RECEPTION, 5 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM.

Main electricity, water, drainage.

GARAGE and STABLE. Simply laid out garden and kitchen garden.

IN ALL ABOUT ½ ACRE



£4,250

Apply: Head Office, as above.

ESSEX—SUFFOLK BORDERS

Easy reach Cambridge and Newmarket. In a lovely position amidst beautiful country.

OLD FARMHOUSE

MODERNISED AND IN EXCELLENT ORDER

HALL
2 SITTING ROOMS
4 BEDROOMS
BATHROOM

Own electricity (main available)

Good water supply.

Useful range of farm buildings including a fine

OLD BARN

About 8½ ACRES with possession.



£4,750

Or would be sold without buildings and land.

Apply: Sole Agents, Head Office, as above, or Coval Hall, Chelmsford (Tel. 4681-2)

MOLDHAM, CLARKE & EDGLEY

Chartered Surveyors.

155.6, HIGH STREET, GUILDFORD, and at Woking.

HURTWOOD HILLS

In delightful country within reach of Guildford and Dorking.

Originally the garage and stable block of a large estate, suitable for a smallholding or conversion to form a Charming Country House, and at present comprising:

2 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, coach house, stabling, garage, bothy, etc. Main services, walled garden, paddock and woodland, in all 10 ACRES.

£4,500 FREEHOLD

Guildford Office. Tel. 67281/3.

SHALFORD, NR. GUILDFORD

In this favoured village less than 2 miles from Guildford.

A CHARMING SMALL MODERN DETACHED RESIDENCE in good decorative order and compactly planned.

Entrance hall, cloakroom, 2 good reception rooms, kitchen, 4 bedrooms (2 h. and e.), tiled bathroom, separate w.c. Gas-fired central heating. Garage. Small garden.

£5,250 FREEHOLD OR NEAR OFFER

Guildford Office. Tel. 67281/3.

WEST SURREY

Readily accessible to town and country.

A FIRST-CLASS RESIDENTIAL HOLDING OF 60 ACRES arable and pasture land, with modern Residence of 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, etc. Excellent buildings, modern bungalow and villa. All main services. £19,000 FREEHOLD.

Woking Office. Tel. 3419/3420.

23, HIGH STREET

C. M. STANFORD & SON

Tel. 3165

COLCHESTER

COUNTRY PROPERTIES—ESSEX AND SUFFOLK

A QUAIN TUDOR COTTAGE

In the favourite yachting centre of West Mersea. 60 miles London with fast trains from Colchester. Excellent bus service.

ATTRACTIVE PERIOD INTERIOR

2 large reception rooms, bathroom, 4 bedrooms. Main services. Large garden. Rural surroundings.

FREEHOLD £1,900

(D.1556)

COUNTRY BY THE SEA

DELIGHTFUL PERIOD RESIDENCE IN UNSPOILT SURROUNDINGS

A wealth of exposed interior oak. All modern conveniences. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, very pleasant kitchen. Planned garden.

3 ACRES. FREEHOLD £4,500 OR NEAR

(D.1526)

16th—17th-CENTURY COTTAGE RESIDENCE

Occupying a peaceful position surrounded by its own 7½ ACRES with private creek and slipway. Ideal position for yachtsman. 1¼ miles Frinton-on-Sea Station.

THE HOUSE provides 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms and excellent kitchen. Main services. Central heating. Range of outbuildings including garages and workshop.

FREEHOLD £4,250 OR NEAR OFFER

(D.669)

ESHER
WALTON-ON-THAMES
WEYBRIDGE
CHOBHAM

MANN & CO. AND EWBANK & CO.

COBHAM
GUILDFORD
WOKING
WEST BYFLEET

HOOK, SURBITON

Built 20 years ago, in pleasant small cul-de-sac overlooking recreation ground, southern aspect at rear.



4 bedrooms, tiled bathroom, separate w.c., panelled L-shaped hall, cloakroom, 2 fine reception rooms, well-equipped kitchen 11 ft. by 10 ft. 6 in. Built-in garage. Well-stocked garden. All main services. Central heating. Polished oak-strip flooring. **£4,950 FREEHOLD.**
Sole Agents, Esher Office: EWBANK & Co., 70 High Street. Tel. 3537-8.

ATTRACTIVE MODERN SEMI-DETACHED HOUSE WEST BYFLEET



4 bedrooms, bathroom, lounge 24 ft. by 15 ft., with inglenook fireplace. Partial central heating.

1/2 ACRE GARDEN

£4,600 FREEHOLD

West Byfleet Office: Station Approach. Tel. 3238-9.

WEST SURREY

GUILDFORD

Overlooking park, on level ground, few minutes' walk station and High Street.



4 double bedrooms (3 h. and c.), 2 tiled bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, staff room, kitchen, cloakroom, playroom, 2 garages, hard tennis court. Gas-fired central heating. **1 1/2 ACRES.** All main services.

£7,000 FREEHOLD

Guildford Office: 22, Epsom Road. Tel. 62911-2.

COMPACT MODERN HOUSE ON HIGH GROUND

WEYBRIDGE

5 minutes shops, bus route.



3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 separate w.c.s, 2 reception rooms, breakfast room, kitchenette. Garage. Secluded garden. All main services.

£4,950 FREEHOLD

Sole Agents, Weybridge Office: EWBANK & Co., 7, Baker Street. Tel. 61-2.

CHARMING

COTTAGE STYLE RESIDENCE

In best tree-lined avenue, Sunbury-on-Thames.



3 bedrooms, bathroom, etc.; unusual lounge hall with corner cocktail bar, lounge 17 ft. by 13 ft., breakfast room/sun lounge with Vita glass. Garage. Very pleasant garden.

£4,500 FREEHOLD, to include fitted carpets.

Walton Office: 38, High Street. Tel. 2331-2.

FRONTAGE TO RIVER WEY

WEYBRIDGE

Convenient station, shops, in quiet road.



ON 2 FLOORS. 4/6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, etc., cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, kitchen 11 ft. 3 in. by 11 ft. 2 in. Garage. Secluded garden with lawn and woodland walk to river garden, about 1 ACRE. Main services.

£6,500 FREEHOLD

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COLLINS & COLLINS AND RAWLENCE & SQUAREY

WESTLAND HOUSE, 3, CHESTERFIELD GARDENS, CURZON STREET, W.1. Tel.: GROsvenor 3641 (6 lines).

In association with the other branches of RAWLENCE & SQUAREY

COTSWOLDS

Between Chippenham and Malmesbury.
STONE-BUILT MANOR HOUSE



CENTRAL HEATING AND MODERN FITTINGS

Stone flagged entr. hall, lounge, dining room, library, study, mod. kit., 5 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms (in suites). Garages, stables, 2 cottages (Vacant). **2 ACRES** of gardens. 28 acres grazing. Entire property in excel. order.

OXON—NORTHANTS BORDER

PICTURESQUE ELIZABETHAN MANOR HOUSE IN DELIGHTFUL SETTING

(Beautiful Elevations, Stone Roof, Panelling, etc.).

ENT. HALL, LARGE LOUNGE, DINING ROOM, STUDY, LIBRARY, MOD. FITTED DOMESTIC OFFICES, 5/6 BEDROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS.

PLUS STAFF QUARTERS.

GARAGES, GREENHOUSES.

2 ACRES of secluded gardens, tennis court, 2 cottages.

This centuries-old property is in first-class order and has most efficient heating and labour-saving equipment.

NEAR BATH

Somerset-Wiltshire Border.
BECKINGTON HOUSE



JACOBEOAN MANOR HOUSE (COMPLETELY RENOVATED) IN VILLAGE NEAR FROME

Ent. hall, cloakroom, lounge, dining room, mod. kitchens, library, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Garages, greenhouses. **3 ACRES** old-world gardens, cottage. All main services. **PRICE £10,850 FREEHOLD**

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ANGMERING-ON-SEA, SUSSEX. Tel. Rustington 345 and 1680.

FINESHADE ABBEY, NORTHANTS

Between Stamford (7 miles) and Kettering (15 miles) on A43.
SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION of the valuable fixtures, fittings, architectural features and building materials of that part of this well known Mansion about to be demolished, including carved Pine and Marble chimneypieces of exceptional beauty, Ornamental Doorways, Staircase with wrought iron balustrade, Crystal and Wrought Iron Chandeliers, hand-carved Mouldings, decorated ceilings, Stone Paving, ornamental stone Balustrading, Garden Ornaments, entire modern central heating system, up-to-date bathroom fittings, Esso Major cooker, etc.



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16th, 1955, sale commencing at 10.45 a.m.
On view from November 7.

For illustrated catalogue (price 2/-), Apply.
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Phone: **A. T. UNDERWOOD & CO.** And at
Crawley 528 **ESTATE OFFICE, THREE BRIDGES, SUSSEX** OCKHAM, RIPLEY SURREY

SURROUNDED BY FARMLANDS

£10,000—A CHARMING MODERNISED ELIZABETHAN PERIOD RESIDENCE full of old oak and character features, situated 30 miles South of London. Hall and cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, including oak panelled lounge, 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, playroom and staff annex. Central heating, etc. Double garage. Stabling and grounds. Wonderful situation. **PRICE WITH FARM OF 109 ACRES AS LET. £15,000.** Ref. 1215

THE HOME OF AN ARTIST

AN UNUSUALLY ATTRACTIVE TUDOR STYLE REPRODUCTION RESIDENCE occupying a beautiful woodland setting ideally suited to those who require a small but "perfect" house. Hall, lounge, dining room and sitting room, 3 bedrooms (2 h. and c.), bathroom and fine studio. Part central heating. Garage. **ABOUT 3 1/2 ACRES**, mostly woods. **PRICE £7,350.** Ref. 5522.

AMIDST UNSPOILED COUNTRY

A BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED RESIDENCE of medium size situated near the village of Balcombe and within daily travelling distance of London. Hall, cloakroom, 2 reception rooms, small breakfast room, 5 bedrooms (2 with fitted wash basins), 2 bathrooms (one with separate shower) radiators. 2 garages. Easily kept gardens of **1 ACRE.** **PRICE FREEHOLD £5,950.** Ref. 1380

APPLICANT'S COMMENT—"A DREAM COTTAGE"

REMOTE COUNTRY COTTAGE in perfect order with wealth of old oak beams situated near Ashdown Forest but not isolated as buses pass and similar cottage adjoins. Porch and hall, large lounge, dining room, 3 bedrooms (all h. and c.) and bathroom. Main water and electricity. Garage. Garden. Lovely views and surrounding country. **PRICE £3,475.** Ref. 9247



HAMPTON & SONS

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In a delightful setting in the much sought after

ESHER DISTRICT

THIS CHARMING MODERN RESIDENCE



with all its principal rooms enjoying a Southern aspect. Hall, 2 reception rooms, maid's room, kitchen, 4 bedrooms (basins h. and e.), loggia, bathroom, etc.

CENTRAL HEATING
Oak strip flooring; built-in furniture. Main services.

2 GARAGES
Well maintained grounds of about $\frac{3}{4}$ ACRE formally displayed in lawns, sunken paved garden, **HARD TENNIS COURT**, etc.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S.55048)

EXECUTORS' SALE

IN LOVELY COUNTRY SOUTH OF DORKING

Close to buses and village.

THIS FULLY MODERNISED AND WELL PROPORTIONED RESIDENCE



Planned on 2 floors.
6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge hall and 3 reception rooms, excellent offices with kitchen fitted Aga. Small self-contained staff wing.

CENTRAL HEATING
Co's services.

GARAGE
Attractive Cottage
The grounds are fully matured with lawns, kitchen garden, small paddock.

ABOUT 2 ACRES

FREEHOLD £7,750 OR NEAR. STRONGLY RECOMMENDED

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S.43883)

4 MILES SEVENOAKS

*A noted beauty spot close to village. London 25 miles.
Magnificent situation and views, 600 feet above sea level.*
GENTLEMAN'S SUPERB MODERN RESIDENCE

and Thriving Model Fruit and Attended Dairy Farm of 17 ACRES.

3 reception, cloakroom, modern kitchen with Aga, 5 bedrooms (basins), bathroom, Dairy. Main services. Oak parquet and strip floors.

Modern Buildings.

About 1 acre delightful formal garden, **16 ACRES** fruit, grass and arable.

Low rates.



Substantial capital allowance relief. Live and dead stock at valuation. PRICE ON APPLICATION

Strongly recommended by

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's S.W.1. (K.49118)

BERKSHIRE. 35 MILES LONDON

CHARMING QUEEN ANNE RESIDENCE IN UNSPOILT MARKET TOWN

Well maintained and ideal for private occupation or suitable professional purposes.

Spacious hall, cloakroom, 2 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen.

All main services.

Garage

Unusually attractive and secluded walled garden.



FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

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By direction of AUBREY GODFREY-PORTER, Esq.

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BETWEEN DEVIZES (9 MILES) AND WARMINSTER (8 MILES).

SITUATED ON THE DEEP FERTILE GREENSAND OF PEWSEY VALE.

MEDIUM-SIZED HISTORICAL 14th-CENTURY

MANOR HOUSE

3 GOOD FARMS OF 246, 158 and 67 ACRES RESPECTIVELY

7 COUNTRY COTTAGES



THE WHOLE ESTATE WHICH IS ATTESTED EMBRACES 478 ACRES

WITH VACANT POSSESSION
(subject to certain Service Occupations)

FREE OF TITHE AND LAND TAX

FOR SALE BY AUCTION IN 15 LOTS
(unless sold privately as a whole meanwhile).

Auction 2.15 p.m. Thursday, December 8, 1955 at the Bear Hotel, Devizes.

Illustrated Auction Particulars and Plan from Messrs. NICHOLAS, 1, Station Road, Reading (Tel. 54905), or 4, Albany Court Yard, Piccadilly, W.1 (Tel.: Regent 1184), or, RAWLENCE & SQUAREY, Salisbury Office (Tel. 2467/8).

**WINDSOR, BURNHAM
FARNHAM COMMON**

A. C. FROST & CO.

**BEACONSFIELD
GERRARDS CROSS**

A CHARMING PERIOD COTTAGE HIGH ON THE CHILTERN

On a gentle southern slope with delightful views, on high ground above the Thames Valley at Marlow and convenient for High Wycombe with station and shops.



A genuine period cottage in an unspoilt Buckinghamshire village away from all traffic nuisance yet not isolated.

Carefully restored and modernised, the cottage contains 3 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms and a downstairs bedroom or third reception room, modern bathroom. Kitchen with Rayburn.

BRICK GARAGE
and brick workshop.

Garden with young orchard about half an acre together with a field (let off) of about **1 ACRE**

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION, £4,250

Apply: A. C. FROST & Co., Beaconsfield. Tel. 600/1.

GERRARDS CROSS, BUCKS

Exceptional setting; literally 5 minutes walk of shops and station.

AN IMPOSING HOME OF CHARACTER WITH FEW BUT WELL PROPORTIONED ROOMS

On two floors only

Lounge hall, cloaks and 3 reception. Compact tiled offices. 5 double bedrooms (basins), 2 bathrooms.

Oak floors and complete central heating. Main services.

EXCELLENT ORDER

2 DOUBLE GARAGES

Absolute seclusion is afforded by the matured grounds of about

1½ ACRES

FREEHOLD WITH IMMEDIATE VACANT POSSESSION

Apply: A. C. FROST & Co., Gerrards Cross. Tel. 2277/8.



MAIDENHEAD
BUNNINGDALE

GIDDY & GIDDY

WINDSOR, SLOUGH
GERRARDS CROSS

MAIDENHEAD

Completely secluded, adjoining and overlooking unspoiled countryside.



5 bedrooms and dressing rooms (hainas), bathroom, 2 reception rooms, cloakroom, well-equipped kitchen. Partial central heating. 2 garages. Delightful gardens of 1 ACRE.

PRICE FREEHOLD £8,500

Sole Agents: GIDDY & GIDDY, Station Approach, Maidenhead, (Tel. 53).

MAIDENHEAD

An exceptionally well-appointed medium-sized Residence, maintained in first-class condition and standing in extremely beautiful gardens.

FIRST TIME IN THE MARKET FOR 29 YEARS



A MODERN HOUSE containing 5 beds, 2 baths, 2-3 reception, kit and staff sit. room, cloak, etc. Double garage and outbuildings. Beautiful gardens of about 1/2 acre.

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BERKSHIRE—SURREY BORDERS

About 250 ft. above sea level close to Windsor Great Park and about 1 mile from a station.



A DELIGHTFUL COUNTRY HOUSE with 4/5 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms. Double garage and stable block. Gardens with orchard (suitable as a building site). ABOUT 2 ACRES.

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1759

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THE OLD MANOR, UPPER LAMBOURN, BERKS

Adjoining the Lambourn Downs with gallops and first rate hacking country. Hunting with the Old Berks and Craven.
A CHARMING SMALL PERIOD HOME OR TRAINING ESTABLISHMENT

5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms (one 28 ft. by 17 ft.). Offices. Central heating. Main services.

20 MODERN LOOSE BOXES or more available.

Interesting garden, partly walled. Paddock.

4 1/2 ACRES

FOR SALE BY AUCTION, NOVEMBER 27, 1955, unless previously sold.

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NEWBURY, BERKSHIRE

BEAUTIFUL REGENCY HOUSE EXTENSIVELY RENOVATED. Tastefully decorated and Period fireplaces, etc. Main services. 2-3 reception, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, modern kitchen. Hural radiators. 2 SELF-CONTAINED FLATS in wing. Attractive grounds of 2 ACRES. £7,500.

BETWEEN NEWBURY AND READING. COUNTRY HOUSE standing high. Bus service passes. 5 bedrooms (h. and c.), bathroom, 3 receptions (one 36 ft. by 14 ft.). Central heating and services. Self-contained staff cottage attached. Good buildings. 1 1/2 ACRES. £6,500.

NEWBURY 2 1/2 MILES, WITH ACCESS OFF A SMALL HEATHER COMMON. A GOOD FAMILY HOUSE, quiet and secluded, but not isolated. 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 receptions. Main services and radiators. Garage 3 cars and grounds ABOUT 1 1/2 ACRES. LOW PRICE OF £4,950.

NORTH WEST OF NEWBURY. A 17th CENTURY VILLAGE HOUSE in an old walled garden of about 3/4 ACRE. 5 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms. Main services. Barn. £3,500.

A BERKSHIRE WEEKEND COTTAGE. Expensively modernised in a quiet position and with an entirely rural outlook. 3 bedrooms (h. and c.), bathroom, 2 sitting rooms, excellent kitchen. Garage. Main services. Grounds about 1 ACRE. £3,400.

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MIDHURST, SUSSEX

TEL. 14 and 464

A GEORGIAN HOUSE

Close to the centre of Midhurst.

5 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, USUAL DOMESTIC OFFICES. 2 ACRES

RANGE OF OUTBUILDINGS. MAIN SERVICES

PRICE £8,500 FREEHOLD

AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE ERECTED IN 1950 AND EXTREMELY WELL FITTED THROUGHOUT

3 BEDS., BATH., DELIGHTFUL LOUNGE, DINING ROOM, WELL-EQUIPPED DOMESTIC OFFICES

MAIN SERVICES. CENTRAL HEATING

PRICE £5,500 FREEHOLD

Pleasant garden. Garage, etc.

WEST SUSSEX

Midhurst 3 miles.

A VERY ATTRACTIVE AND UNIQUE TUDOR COTTAGE MODERNISED THROUGHOUT

Delightfully secluded position amid common and agricultural land. South aspect.

4 BEDROOMS
BATHROOM
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
CLOAKROOM
BRIGHT DOMESTIC OFFICES

Main electricity, water.

Modern drainage.

Central heating.

Garage for 2 cars.



PRICE £5,000 FREEHOLD

RECOMMENDED

By Order of the Executors of Lady Edgar, decd.

MESSRS.

REES-REYNOLDS & HUNT

Chartered Surveyors

Will submit to Public Auction at the Ethorpe Hotel, Gerrards Cross, on Thursday, December 8, 1955, at 3 p.m.

THE 200 ACRE

CHALFONT PARK ESTATE

GERRARDS CROSS, BUCKS

Producing a net income of
£408 14s. 7d. PER ANNUM

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Yeovil, Somerset (Tel. 434)

REQUIRED TO PURCHASE

WITHIN EASY DAILY REACH OF

SHERBORNE, BRUTON, YEOVIL

OR

DORCHESTER

COMPACT COUNTRY RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER, preferably Georgian.

3 rec., 5/6 bed., 2 bathrooms. Main services. Central heating.

SECLUDED GROUNDS, NOT ON TRAFFIC ROUTES

THE FAIR MARKET VALUE WILL BE PAID FOR THE RIGHT
PROPERTY

Reference C.L.M.

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Telegrams:
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OFFICES

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DEVONSHIRE

Sea 1 mile. Plymouth 10 miles.

A HIGHLY PROFITABLE NURSERY WITH GOOD RESIDENCE



Close to attractive village.
2/3 reception rooms, 4/5
bedrooms, bathroom, com-
part offices. Aga cooker.

Main services.

Garages.

Delightful gardens and
grounds. About 80 fruit
trees. 4,500 sq. ft. of
heated glasshouses. Useful
outbuildings.

**FREEHOLD
FOR SALE**

HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1
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CHARMING ESHER DISTRICT

IN ONE OF THE VERY BEST PARTS OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD
CLOSE TO OPEN COMMON AND WOODLANDS

A charming Residence
of character, replete
with central heating and
modern conveniences.

Entrance hall, cloakroom,
lounge, dining room, maids'
sitting room, 4 bedrooms,
dressing room, bathroom.

Central heating. Electric
light and main service.

2 garages. Beautiful gar-
dens with tennis lawn,
flower garden, herbaceous bor-
ders.

THE AREA BEING ABOUT 3/4 ACRE

Recommended by HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge,
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EASY REACH OF WINCHESTER

In a picturesque village, handy for buses, shops, etc.
DELIGHTFUL REGENCY RESIDENCE



With large hall and cloak-
room, 3 excellent reception
rooms, 5 bedrooms (basins,
h. and c.), built-in ward-
robes, 2 bathrooms, excel-
lent offices.

All companies' mains.

Garage, stabling, useful
outbuildings.

Delightful grounds, partly
walled, with lawns, fruit
and vegetable garden, orna-
mental trees, small pad-
dock, in all 1 1/2 ACRES.

**ONLY £5,500
FREEHOLD**

Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1.
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SOMERSET

In the triangle Taunton-Yeovil and Bridgwater

A COMPLETELY MODERNISED HOUSE IN THE REGENCY STYLE



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views. Bus passes drive
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ABOUT 30 ACRES (24 acres pasture all in hand).

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Main electric light and
water. Central heating
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Attractive and well-pro-
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additional plot available if
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A well-appointed
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dressing room, bathroom.

Electric light and main ser-
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Well laid out pleasure gar-
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In a picturesque Oxfordshire village, 1 mile from the river.

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A very interesting free-
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4 reception rooms, 5 bed-
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Main electricity.

EXCELLENT RANGE
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Fine orchard (5 acres),
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BUILT BY THE PRESENT OWNER IN 1937

In first-class order and
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Situated in one of the very
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1 1/2 miles. Bus 2 mins. walk.
Hall, cloakroom, magnifi-
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6 in. by 14 ft. with massive
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On 2 floors only. 2 recep-
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suite with own bath for
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All main services. Oil-fired
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Garage for 2 cars; useful
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Lawns, fully stocked kit-
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ture land.



IN ALL 15 ACRES

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Telephone:
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DUNSINEA HOUSE, CASTLEKNOCK, CO. DUBLIN****ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE AND
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MEASURE PRIME QUALITY LAND****THE RESIDENCE***which has central heating throughout, is
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SCULLERY, PANTRY, ETC.*The servants' quarters are entirely cut off
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Solicitors: Messrs. G. D. FOTTELL & SONS, 30, Lower Baggot Street, Dublin.**There is E.S.B. light throughout and an Aga-
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7 loose boxes, cow house, dairy, store houses,
etc.**There is a well-stocked walled-in garden with
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an unfailing water supply from the River
Tolka.**This property, which is situated in the Green
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Tel. Hartley Wintney 296/7**HAMPSHIRE HUNT COUNTRY****CHARMING 17TH-CENTURY RESIDENCE.** 3
reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom. Garage,
loose box. With large orchard of approximately 1 1/4
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VACANT POSSESSION. FREEHOLD £5,950
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SMALL TO MEDIUM HOUSE, 3-4 beds., 2-3 rec. Not
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4 RECEPTION ROOMS, 10 BEDROOMS

Minimum area of land 50 ACRES

*Replies to "Edge." Usual commission required.***CUMBERLAND****"HAWSE END," KESWICK***Keswick 3 miles. Portinscale 1/2 mile.***Substantial stone and slated Residence on the out-
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Major cooker, Domestic offices, 2 bedrooms and bathroom.*Cottage, stabling and garage. Garden which surrounds
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SUSSEX WEALD*Buxted 3 miles and Lewes (Victoria 60 minutes) 10 miles.*
PERIOD RESIDENCE OF UNUSUAL CHARM**With trout stream and
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loggia, 3 reception rooms.
Old-world features includ-
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Garage. Old mill house.**Picturesque
modern cottage.**
Garden and 12 ACRES
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rooms, usual offices. *Main
services. Central heating.***Lovely
old-world gardens.**
Swimming pool. Hard
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5 1/2 ACRES**Strongly recommended
at £5,750****Also available, T.T. AND ATTESTED DAIRY FARM with model buildings
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of 2 beds., 1 sitt., kitchen
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gible cost).Modernised farm buildings
with electric light and
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"CARTHION"***A fine detached freehold
residence in well-kept
grounds.**4 reception rooms, excel-
lent kitchen, cloak (h. and
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rooms. Garage. Green-
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Outbuildings.**ALL MAIN
SERVICES****Vacant Possession apart
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2 small Country Cottages, each containing 2 bedrooms, bathroom, sitting room, dining room, kitchen. Views over open country. **PRICES £2,250 and £2,750.** Ref. 4332.

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In perfect order. 5 principal bedrooms (4 and 1), 2 bathrooms, 2 maid's bedrooms, 3 reception rooms. Complete central heating. Main electricity, gas, water and drainage. Garage accommodation for 4 cars. Modern bungalow cottage, and lovely grounds of about 3 ACRES. Price and further particulars of Owner's Agents, CYRIL JONES & PARTNERS, as above. (Ref. 2188.)

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Close to the sea and with wonderful views.



DELIGHTFUL SMALL VILLA

in good condition and very
easy to run.

2 receptions, 3 master bedrooms,
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All modern conveniences.

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Charming small garden.

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About 10 miles from the sea. Lovely view.

MODERNISED PROVENCAL FARM-HOUSE OF GREAT CHARM

In good condition.

2 receptions, 5 bedrooms,
2 bathrooms.

All modern conveniences.

Garden 1 ACRE, many
olive trees.

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APPLEDORE, N. DEVON. For Sale.
Charming and compact Georgian House,
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Back: separate flat comprising 2 bedrooms,
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Vae. poss. Best offers over £3,000.—Box 9507.

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Sale. 5 years built in excellent condition,
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CORNWALL, near Fowey, by river. Sub-
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ar. All mains. Small garden. Wonderful sailing,
fishing. Warm winter climate. Mortgage
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Also cottages, outbuildings and up to 200
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HANTS. and BERKS. BORDERS.
Between Basingstoke, Newbury and
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IRELAND. BATTERSBY & Co., Estate
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3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, bathroom
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Sheltered. Sunny. Illustrated particulars
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SOUTH DEVON. An architect-designed
Residence of outstanding merit. Stand-
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Salcombe. Hall, cloakroom, lounge (23 ft. by
15 ft.), Claygate fireplace and beamed ceil-
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interior timber work is of oak. Central
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EPSOM, SURREY, area. Wanted to pur-
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WANTED, preferably Sussex or Surrey,
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Staff cottage an attraction. Can wait till
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Wanted to Rent

UNFURNISHED, small House or
Cottage, 3 bedrooms, for about five
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PARTNERSHIP REQUIRED. Estate
Agents, see Personal Column, page 1118.

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Mixed Farm. In good heart condition
with excellent outbuildings, and modern
easily run house, c.l., 3 recept., kitchen with
Aga, 5 bed, 4 w.h. and c., well appointed
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Lounge (18 ft. by 14 ft.), dining room (14 ft.
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Many outbuildings including 2 barns, play-
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Easily run garden and grass paddock
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7 to 12 acres; 2 acres orchard; 2 acres early
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Main services, central heating, Aga cooker,
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RATES ONLY £8 ss. per annum.
A genuine bargain at £5,500.
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CONTINUED ON OTHER PAGES**
Page 1120—Property.
Pages 1118-1120—All other classified
advertisements.
**RATES AND ADDRESS FOR
ADVERTISEMENTS ON PAGE 1118**



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DEFIES COMPARISON

Saves money, time and hard labour
IN YOUR GARDEN



THE Hayn
ALL PURPOSE
SWEEPER

GUARANTEED FOR THREE YEARS

This sweeper has achieved phenomenal success in the Commonwealth for several years, prior to being made in this country with improvements.

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• Simple hand adjustments with lift off, extra strong bag.

• Heavy duty brushes 20ins. wide.

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£12.12.0

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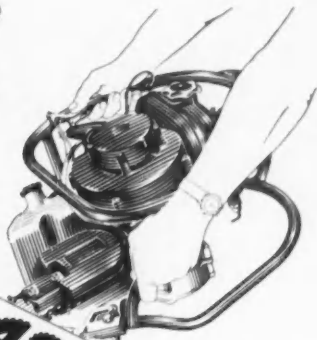
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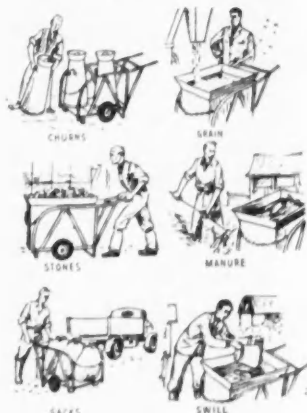
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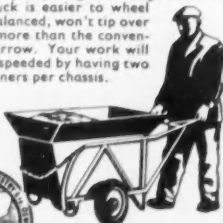
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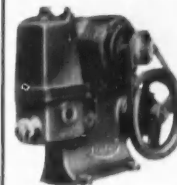
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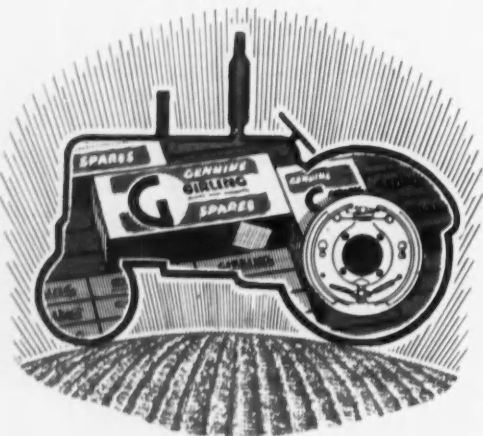
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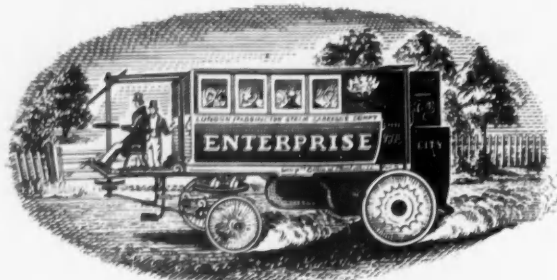
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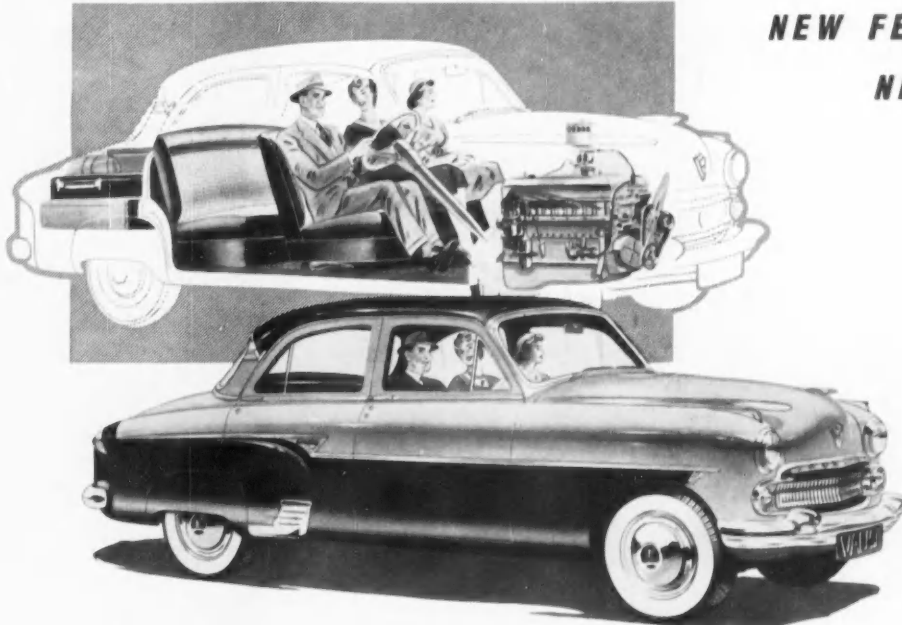
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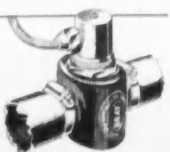
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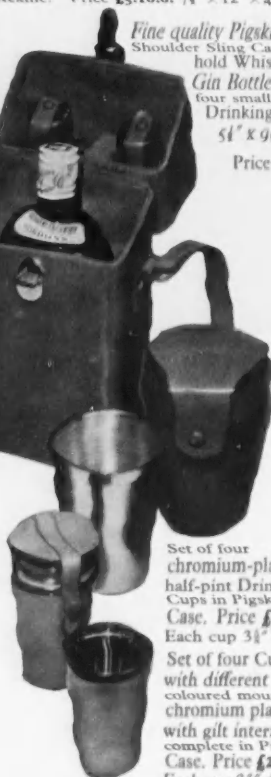


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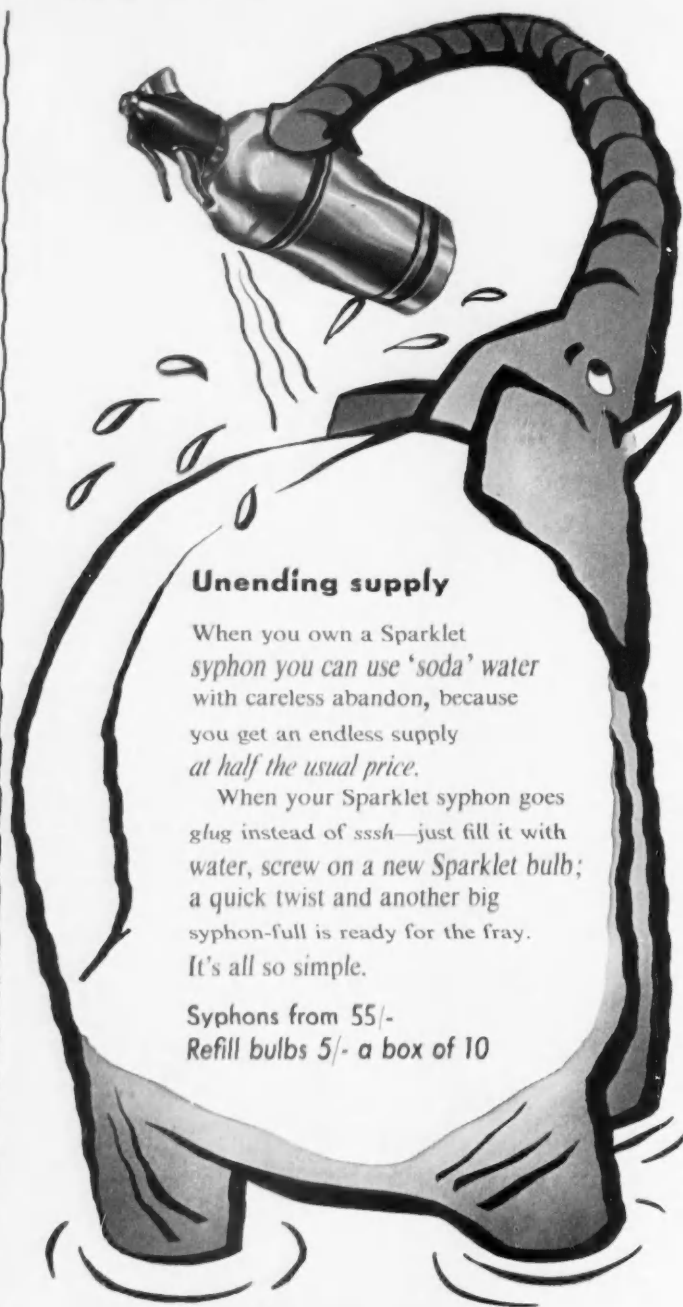
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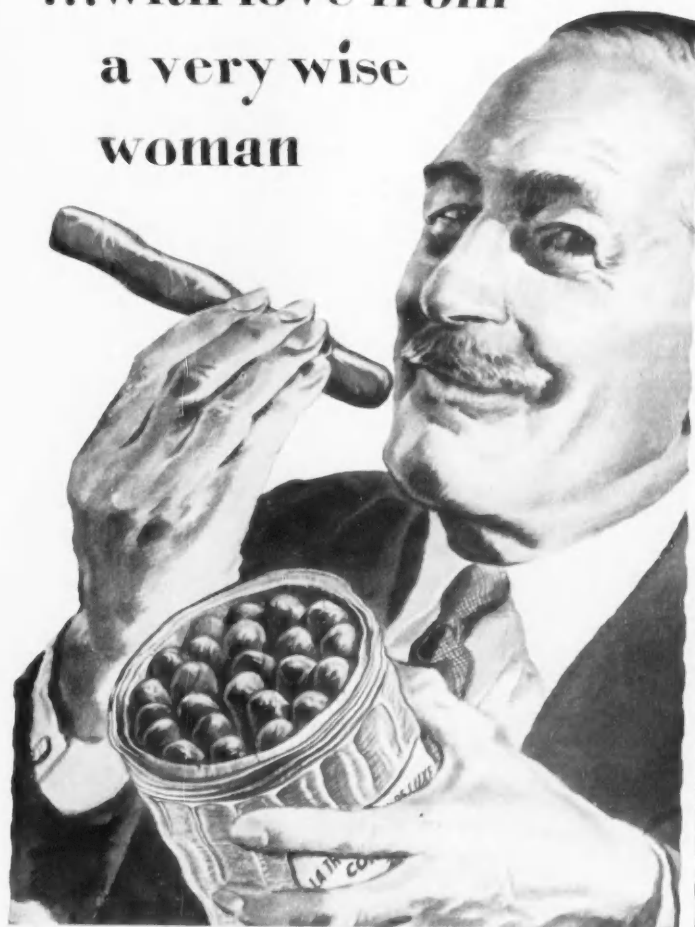
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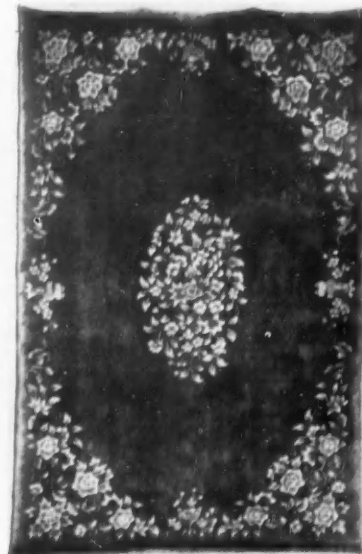
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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CXVIII No. 3069

NOVEMBER 10, 1955



Pearl Freeman

MISS VERONICA MARY BERNAYS

Miss Veronica Mary Bernays, only child of the late Lt.-Col. J. S. N. Bernays and of Mrs. Bernays, of Greystead, Wrecclesham, Surrey, is engaged to be married to Mr. Edward Alexander Johnston, second son of the late Professor E. H. Johnston and of Mrs. Johnston, of Clare Hall, Clare, Suffolk

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EDITORIAL OFFICES:

2-10 TAVISTOCK-STREET
COVENT GARDEN
W.C.2

Telephone, Covent Garden 2692
Telegrams, Country Life, London

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SUBSIDISED HOUSES

AMONG the differences of opinion that have arisen since Mr. Butler's presentation of an autumn Budget, none has been more hotly pursued than that on the contribution which the ending of subsidies might make to the balancing of the national account. It seemed to Lord Brand, in the House of Lords discussion last week, that in present circumstances no Government could be expected to find means of reducing Government expenditure or local government expenditure except through control of the rates of interest, and he gave the opinion of a banking and financial expert when he said that in many other countries the use of monetary policy had successfully prevented inflation, and that the control of the Bank rate would have the same result here. If this is true, it is also true that such controls, as we have seen this year, are apt to work slowly; and though the Government clearly cannot get to work with a Geddes Axe on their defence and social security programmes, they can reconsider the indefinite extension of the subsidies which they have inherited from a state of siege during the war. How can this be done?

The Government have already begun to tackle the question of the housing subsidy. As the Minister said in his recent statement to the House of Commons, the local authorities for the most part possess pools of existing houses upon which they are receiving large amounts of subsidy but which include many pre-war houses built at comparatively low cost. Provided they subsidise only those tenants who require subsidising, and only to the extent of their need, they should be well able to continue building the new houses they require with much less Exchequer assistance than hitherto, and the Bill now before Parliament reduces the present subsidy from twenty-one guineas to ten pounds. The basis of the proposed changes in subsidy rates, apart from the slowing down of the annual growth of Exchequer expenditure, is the fact that unless local authorities exercise more discrimination in giving relief to their tenants there is bound, in the Minister's words, to be a continued misuse of public money. Councils are at present discouraged from introducing differential rent schemes by the fact that, no matter how much they increase their revenue from rents, they still have a statutory obligation to pay into the Housing Revenue accounts a fixed contribution from the rates. This obligation is now abolished by the new Bill, and the local authority will be able to conduct its accounts in its own way, to determine the size of its own housing programme and to keep, incidentally, its demands upon our building resources within reasonable bounds.

It should perhaps be pointed out that

though the amount of the housing subsidy is calculated according to the works of individual houses built, this does not mean that a reduction of £12 per house from the subsidy will mean that the annual rent of industrial houses will be increased by £12. The subsidy is paid into the local authority's general account, and though the authorities will now be able to adopt a more realistic scale of rents, and to use any savings they may make to reduce their general rate burden, the effect on individual rents should not be very great. The Ministry's estimate is that by the first, and in each succeeding year until the need for large-scale housing is satisfied, the broad average increase of council house rents will be about eightpence a week.

MIRACLE

*I MARVEL at the strength
Of every delicate thing—
A swallow cleaving autumn gales
With fragile wing;
A worm that turns the earth
And eats into the bone;
A water-drip that wears away
Our monuments of stone.
What spur is in the sap
When snowdrops under snow
Prick through the earth's unwilling flank
We cannot know.
A grain of pollen dust
Bears centuries of green.
Who dares to face the world and mock
A world unseen?
A footprint in the sand;
A wave that breaks and goes;
Through fallen and unfolded things
We know the instant rose.
Here is the miracle
For ever yours and mine—
To hold the water to our lips
And taste the wine.*

PHOEBE HESKETH.

ART IN THE COMMONS

THERE are something like 900 murals, pictures and statues in the House of Commons area, excluding the Speaker's House. It is the surprising discovery made by a committee of M.P.s set up last year to examine the matter and make recommendations. But it turns out that the "vast bulk" of these consist in engravings of past members "of more or less note" and on the whole the collection "is sadly lacking in works of character and artistic merit." The committee does not propose interfering with the various murals, which "have come to be regarded as a fitting part of the House." It recommends forming systematically an appropriate collection of Parliamentary portraits, groups, scenes and caricatures, mainly by acquisition but by direct commission occasionally, with some decorations such as tapestries and landscape pictures. The prospect of obtaining suitable items by loan, even from the vaults of national collections, or from the National Trust, is apparently discouraging, and would not, of course, further the very laudable notion that the House should periodically commission, say, historic groups or "conversations" of statesmen. It is suggested that a fund of £10,000, replenished as necessary, should be allocated for all these purposes. That seems reasonable. Parliament should be in a position to acquire and commission works periodically. But the report scarcely explores the possibilities of obtaining historic portraits, though the facilities for "chattels" being accepted in lieu of death duties are a legitimate and effective method.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

WHEN he spoke to the Farmers' Club on Monday Lord Rothschild, the chairman of the Agricultural Research Council, was frank in admitting that the amount of money spent on research is small as a percentage of the country's agricultural output; it is 0.3 per cent. There are some obvious gaps. One mentioned by Lord Rothschild is poultry research. The total expenditure is £122,000, while the annual value of the commodities produced is £132,000,000. A big poultry research institute could be set up, but there would not be enough scientists interested in poultry research to staff it without depriving the universities and

colleges of workers essential to them. The Agricultural Research Council has decided to step up the subsidies for research on this subject at the universities and colleges, and this seems the best way at the moment. Farmers often wonder how the priorities in agricultural research are decided. This task is now the responsibility jointly of the Agricultural Research Council and the Agricultural Improvement Council; one of the constant problems is to find the right man to undertake the development of particular research. There is, of course, a good deal of valuable research being done by commercial firms, and this is now to be brought into closer relationship with the Agricultural Research Council.

CROWN LANDS AND TRIBUNALS

SIR MALCOLM TRISTRAM EVE has been appointed chairman of the Board of Trustees which will in future control Crown Lands, and a better choice could not be made. In addition to having served as chairman of the Local Government Boundary Commission dissolved by Mr. Bevan in 1949, he has been responsible for much other post-war administration. At present he is chairman of the Road Haulage Disposal Board and is also First Church Estates Commissioner. He was the first chairman of the Central Land Board, and it was he who dealt with both war damage and war works during and after the war. At the same time the Prime Minister has made another excellent series of appointments to the Committee of Enquiry promised after Crichton Down. With the practice and procedure of administrative tribunals in general, Sir Oliver Banks with his academic, diplomatic and financial experience should make an admirable chairman. The legal profession is well represented by Lord Justice Parker and Sir Charles Russell, Q.C., and Lord Silkin has also the advantage of much experience as Minister of Town and Country Planning. The political members are well chosen for knowledge and practical experience and so are the representatives of industry.

THE CHESS MACHINE

NONE of our chess players is at present quite good enough to beat the great Russian masters, but we seem to be building a machine that may yet do it. It was lately described by Dr. R. V. Bowden, the principal of Manchester College of Technology. At present it has clearly a long way to go, and is so far much better at draughts than chess. At chess it is extremely slow, "having to peer short-sightedly at every piece on the board" before it can make up its mind to move. A remarkable amount of time is always allowed the chess player, but this comprehensive survey does sound excessive. Moreover, it apparently has not yet learned all the rules of the game. No doubt, we are told, more skilful machines will be available in a few years. "Life's too short for chess" somebody irreverently remarks in *Our Boys*, and some people may be inclined to deem this true of even the most accomplished of robots. Incidentally, it is to be hoped that this one will not rest its powerful intellect by a little golf. If it has to peer short-sightedly at every foot of the green before putting, it may make the more impatient of men even more furious than do even some of the most leisurely of modern champions.

THE FOX AND THE TAX

TO the mind of the ordinary person a purchase tax implies a purchase, but this is clearly not so. Witness the recent lament of a Lincolnshire motorist. He was driving at night when out jumped a fox, which ran across the road and was knocked down and killed by the car. He took the skin to a furrier and had it cured and dressed. The skin was valued at £1 and the cost of treating it was 17s. 6d. Then out jumped the tax gatherer and demanded 50 per cent. purchase tax to the tune of 18s. 9d. The *Inland Revenue* is famous for a singular and sometimes malignant sense of humour, but "if this don't beat cock-fighting," as Mr. Weller once remarked, "nothing never will." Very likely the Revenue can justify the charge by reference to some Act of Parliament, but is it worth making itself and the law look ridiculous all for the value of 18s. 9d.?



Vernon D. Shaw

OLD HOUSES AT PRESTBURY, CHESHIRE

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By IAN NIALL

ALTHOUGH I am not a cat fancier—I kept birds too long and suffered the depredations of cats in my garden too often to be an enthusiast so far as they are concerned—I am continually diverted by their hunting behaviour. Some of them show a great cunning, and most have patience and the ferocity and speed of much larger felines. A friend who has a doctored cat that is a tireless hunter was telling me not long ago how her pet likes to display its kill. Mice are eaten, with the exception of the heads and what appears to be the bladder. Shrews are not eaten at all, although numbers of them are killed. The kills not used to satisfy the inner cat are left on show, but the odd thing is that the larder is at the front porch and the items killed for the sake of killing are lined up at the back doorstep. The latter victims include shrews, bats, certain birds and even insects. One morning the door was opened on an assortment consisting of a large moth, two shrews, a mole and a bat. In the ordinary way moths are eaten by this particular cat, but this was a very large moth. The bat may seem very mouse-like to human beings, but the cat did not find it so. Perhaps the leathery wings put it off.

MOLES are not commonly caught by cats and not often taken above ground, considering the great numbers that live in quite small areas. Which reminds me that I saw a mole burrowing the other day. I was coming down a hillside and using a well-worn path, when my attention was taken by a disturbance by the bank. I stopped and watched a mole working just beneath the surface. It seemed to me that he had wanted to go downhill, but had encountered a rock beneath the path and had gone on making his tunnel quite unaware that he was exposing himself and revealing his direction. It took him only a few minutes to plough his way some three or four feet, but in softer soil he would have made much faster progress. It was just about dusk when I saw the mole at work, and I could imagine how the curiosity of a cat or dog would have been aroused by the churning up of the light turf. Long before the mole went burrowing

on into the lower bank he would have been dragged out and killed, but I watched this one go into the bank and did nothing, for he was in rough pasture where no one could wish him harm.

MY garage man is a great bird fancier, and sometimes when I go for petrol I find myself engaged on a discussion on birds and their habits. The other morning we began to talk about blackbirds mobbing the little owl, bird ringing and, finally, the behaviour of robins. I was told of a robin that has spent two winters in this man's household and has now returned, a little earlier than usual, to make sure of his quarters for the colder months. The bird has a habit of entering the house through a fanlight and then drops down a foot or two to fly into the larder, a thing it seems to be able to do without slowing up, for it has been seen to dart at the fanlight and arrive in the larder at top speed. The rapid entry is generally effected when pastry is being laid to cool, and the bird is able to scent the delicacy from a great distance. It is also fond of other things such as newly fried bacon, and perches so close to the cooking stove or the kitchen table that it has to be induced to move, whereupon it takes up a new perch on the tip of the handle of a carpet-sweeper. Two years ago the bird stayed for the better part of a summer as well as winter and a hen was introduced to the larder and a family raised. No difficulty was put in their way in the subsequent season, but for some reason the robin decided to raise his family out of doors. Perhaps the pantry chicks were too delicate, for they were raised largely on titbits and not on insects, consuming vast quantities of crumbs. The birds showed a great liking for shortbread, which, although I am very fond of it, never seems to agree with me quite as I should like it to. It may be that too much shortbread is bad for robins.

ABOUT a week ago I was driving along a tree-lined road when I came upon the scene of an accident. A large branch, almost

the main trunk of the tree itself, had split off and come crashing down. The debris littered the road, and I learned afterwards that it had fallen on a car passing at the time. The passengers and driver had been able to get out, although the car had suffered damage. I was able to get past, for the tree, or the greater part of it, was quickly being reduced to firewood by a number of men with axes. I concluded that the tree was an elm. I had no time to stop, and the men responsible for clearing that part of the road were anxious to keep the traffic moving. I suppose I thought of elm because I have a great distrust of elm trees, which have a knack of looking strong and healthy and splitting in two to reveal a rotten core. The tree was not an elm. I came back that way a little later, and saw that it was an ash. The ash will split, of course, but I think it is an altogether more reliable tree. I fancy this one had gone owing to lop-sided growth, produced, perhaps, by someone cutting away at one side of the tree at some time or other.

If I had to say what tree I distrust in a high wind it would surely be a poplar. They have the habit of cracking at a fork and losing their tops. There are poplars not far from us and, although only one has fallen into the road, a number have lost their tops, which have toppled into the field behind. I always feel that roadside elms need regular examination. A few years back a large elm standing near a road junction in my locality was found to be showing signs of cracking—more often an elm tree comes down without any warning—and the tree was moored and made safe only just in time. It cracked down before the tree-fellers were ready for it, and made a fine mess of the telegraph wires. The stump was burned, which saved a lot of trouble that might have arisen had the roots been taken up.

A READER says he thinks that the nuts which annually disappeared from our walnut trees might have been taken by grey squirrels. Although the grey squirrel is in the district, he still has not reached us, and I do not

complain, for the red squirrel is a far nicer animal in every way. Three or four winters ago I thought I caught a glimpse of a grey squirrel in the trees across the road from our house, but the grey one turned out to be a grizzled red squirrel out of hibernation on one of those mellow days that sometimes come in winter. Squirrels did not take our walnuts. I am quite sure of that.

"This year, for the first time, we have plenty of nuts because, owing to the disappearance of the rabbit, the stoats have been giving their attention to the grey squirrel," comments the same correspondent. "Until this year we had been plagued with them on the farm, but now they have almost entirely disappeared. The stoats must find something to eat." I have seen stoats searching trees at one time or another, but I have never had the opportunity of watching them actually hunt anything aloft. I imagine a grey squirrel takes a lot of cornering in a tree. Does the stoat exercise the same fascination over it that it does over a rabbit? When I think of it, I have never been sure whether the stoat has the same effect upon a mouse as it does upon a rabbit, but no doubt something of the sort happens, for the stoat is not exactly swift on the ground and always seems too tender-footed to make a fast runner. Weasels strike me as having a better turn of speed.

WHEN I used to belong to a sea-fishing club (the digging of bait and constant study of tides to fit the outings into my limited periods of leisure finally proved too much and I gave it up), I was continually delighted to have a meal of freshly-caught fish from the sea. To have its finest flavour a trout should be gutted and eaten as soon after catching as is reasonable, and much the same applies to most sea fish. Whiting bought from the fishmonger mainly goes to feed cats, I fancy, but a fresh

whiting is something quite different. Even the best plaice loses its true flavour when it spends hours on the slab. Some sea anglers insist that fish can be eaten too soon, and they may be right.

MY last trip to the end of the jetty was made well over a year ago. It was a night of full moon—an appropriate night, I was told afterwards, when I mentioned casually that I had gone on fishing until 3 a.m. I had always been told to fish the incoming tide, to break off before the turn, and to fish the ebb. I not only fished the ebb, but fished it to a standstill, taking fish after fish in the company of a man who had all the tools of the trade from a storm lantern to a fine piece of Turkish towelling on which to wipe his hands after baiting his hooks.

At three o'clock, suddenly weary of the knocks of flat fish, I departed to the car, packed up my tackle and put my catch in the boot. The man with the lantern made one concession to the hour and the travelling moon. He put out his lantern, but he did not leave the jetty. I have a suspicion that he never does leave it, but fishes tides in and out and is really a ghost of some lost angler. At breakfast I had one of my catch. It had been swimming about the bay not more than six hours before and was delicious. I am convinced that, although a whiting can be too fresh if it is cooked within an hour or so of its being caught, the flavour of mackerel cooked shortly after the boat is beached is something exceptional. I wonder how many people taste really fresh fish in the course of a year? Those who know about the flavour of fresh vegetables are at great pains to grow their own, but centralised marketing defeats most of us, and so many articles of diet, so much that could taste far better, goes boomeranging from the place where it was produced or landed to be sold twice before it reaches the table, inferior in every way.

IT took a long time to prepare a permanent site for the hens. Our dreams and labour in terms of days had to be reconciled and we had to restore our morale more than once. I believe this happens to all sorts of people. At times it was quite evident that the hen-house should never have been taken down from its site in the wood, and at others it seemed a good idea to make some kindling of it and get a new hen-house that would erect itself, or all but. The history of the hen-house includes a phase when we broke off to spray trees, make a place for pullets, weed beds, prepare the tomato-house and have some new dreams about building a garage and renovating the potting shed. It proved to be more prudent to do anything but get on with the job, but at length the hen-house was rebuilt and an elaborate nest-box fastened to it. In addition, we added a refinement which enables us to open the trapdoor and let out the birds without having to walk round the house. (The next step is to operate it all by remote control, but here our knowledge of electronics or whatever is needed fails us entirely.) Friends who watched our monumental work made obscure remarks about the building of Rome and going softly to catch a monkey. We smiled privately about this. To conceive a thing is all that is needed, and the hen-house was conceived on plinths with a new nesting-box built like a battleship fastened alongside. The nests would hold ostrich eggs, for they were made from the only timber we had and that was stout enough.

"LOOKS too good to put hens in," say our friends, who must comment on our labour when they get a chance. It does, but the hens must have somewhere to live, and when all is said and done it is quite patently a fowl-house, albeit a thing of beauty with green paint and sliding windows, latches, bolts and bars and a neatly felted roof.

CHARM OF THE QUANTOCKS

Written and Illustrated by J. D. U. WARD



THE VILLAGE OF BICKNOLLER IN THE QUANTOCKS, SOMERSET, WHICH THE NATIONAL PARKS COMMISSION PROPOSE TO DESIGNATE AN AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY

THE Quantock Hills, which the National Parks Commission propose to designate an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, have sometimes been called a miniature Exmoor. The rocks of these hills are, like those of Exmoor, Devonian: here is the red soil associated with Devon (and Herefordshire), and here the hard red stone is quarried for road-metal. Nor is Devonian merely a geological label: in several ways—scenery and character of the farms, flora and fauna—the Quantocks have more in common with parts of south Devon than with north or east Somerset. But no similar area of Devon has such variety of beauty.

A writer of 40 years ago was not far wrong when he declared: "There is little that is stern or wild about the Quantocks. Their charm is the allurements of leafy combs and purling rills. They are the most engaging hills in Somerset. They have neither the lengthy monotony of the Mendips nor the lonesomeness of Exmoor." In fact, however, one of the special delights of the Quantocks is that in the north-west, their broadest and most beautiful end, they do retain something of wilderness. Here, on the upper slopes and on top, are expanses of heather, of bracken and of woodland just wide enough and just lonely enough to give the inspiration and re-creation that can come from silence and solitude and a feeling of release or away-from-it-all. It was of this country that Dorothy Wordsworth wrote in her Journal on January 26, 1798:

Walked upon the hill-tops: followed the sheep tracks till we overlooked the larger coomb. Sat in the sunshine. The distant sheep-bells, the sound of the stream; the woodman winding along the half-marked road with his laden pony; locks of wool, still spangled with the dewdrops; the blue-grey sea, shaded with immense masses of clouds, not streaked; the sheep glittering in the sunshine. Returned through the wood . . . the ground strewn with the red berries of the holly.

And on February 24:

Went to the hill-top. Sat a considerable time, overlooking the country towards the sea. The air blew pleasantly round us. The landscape mildly interesting. The Welsh hills capped by a huge range of tumultuous white clouds. The sea, spotted with white, of a bluish grey in general, and streaked with darker lines. The near shores clear; scattered farm-houses, half-concealed by green mossy orchards, fresh straw lying at the doors; haystacks in the fields. Brown fallows, the springing wheat, like a shade of green over the brown earth, and the choice meadow-plots, full of sheep and lambs, of a soft and vivid green; a few wreaths of blue smoke, spreading along the ground; the oaks and beeches in the hedges retaining their yellow leaves; the distant prospect on the land-side, islanded with sunshine; the sea, like a basin full to the margin; the dark, fresh-ploughed fields; the turnips of a lively rough green. Returned through the wood.

Perhaps the Quantocks are most famous for their wooded combs, but



A QUANTOCK VIEW: LOOKING FROM GREAT BEAR TOWARDS BRIDGWATER BAY

any visitor who had to select a single feature for special praise might well prefer the broad and distant views. It is not that the Quantocks are themselves deficient in beauty—they are delightful—but the panoramic prospects which they offer when the light is good and the atmosphere clear, with their own beauty in the foreground and middle distance, combine to form superb examples of what might be called the spacious picturesque. From the north-western end you may look down almost any of the combes across the Bristol Channel to the Brecon Beacons and the Black Mountains. Turning a little east, you see the Somerset coast and the woods of Worlebury beyond Weston-super-Mare, with Bridgwater Bay, Brean Down and Brent Knoll not quite so far away; the Mendip Hills—with the Poldens, Avalon, Glastonbury Tor and Sedgemoor—nearer; the Wiltshire border hills, with Alfred's Tower (if you have a glass) on the edge of the Stourhead estate; the Blackmoor Vale and the Dorset Hills; Taunton Deane backed by the Blackdown Hills with the spike of the Wellington Monument at one end; the Brendon Hills and Exmoor, with Minehead jutting into the sea; and then Wales again to complete the circle. No one place affords the best view in every direction, but it is remarkable how many places afford superb views for 270 degrees out of a circle's 360.

"Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty" have been lightly described as being, in the official view, little sisters of the national parks, and the miniature character of these Quantock Hills, which afford such wide-sweeping views, must be noted. Precision as to where hills begin or end is impossible, but the Quantocks are about twelve miles long by four miles wide—perhaps a little wider at the north-west and a little narrower towards the south-east. The western boundaries are steep and fairly well defined by nature, and Quantoxhead and the sea mark the north-west limit. Other boundaries are rather more vague, but it may be said that, when the official marking of the maps is finally agreed and determined, Nether Stovey and Spaxton are likely to be outside to the north-east and the east, and the foothill village of Kingston St. Mary will probably be just outside the south-eastern limit.

The north will be the part to appeal to most amateurs of landscape. Here are the best expanses of heather and whortleberry; here are Bicknoller Combe, Weacombe, Smith's Combe, Hodder's Combe, Butterfly Combe and Five Lords Combe—with Lady's Edge, Adder Wood, Shervage Wood; here are Alfoxden Park, Beacon Hill, Black Ball Hill, Hare Knap, Robin Upright, Great Bear and Dowsborough or Danesborough—1,094 ft. and the highest point at the north-eastern end of the hills. An exploration of this part of the Quantocks will soon show that the appearance of the hills from east or west is misleading. They seem to be a

simple whaleback ridge, but the walker will find them pleasantly complicated with combes, some heather-clad and others wooded. Perhaps Dorothy Wordsworth may be quoted again:

Wherever we turn we have woods, smooth downs, and valleys with small brooks running down them through meadows hardly ever intersected with hedgerows but scattered over with trees. The hills that cradle these villages are either covered with fern or bilberries or oakwoods—walks extend for miles over the hilltops, the great beauty of which is their wild simplicity.

(One wonders for a moment whether Dorothy



THE TRACK OVER THORNCOMBE HILL FROM ROBIN UPRIGHT

wore leather gaiters, for she omits mention of gorse.)

It is this end of the Quantocks that has seen the most bitter forestry disputes: from the main road at West Quantoxhead one may observe some (too much, indeed) of the Forestry Commission's insensitive planting mistakes of the 1925-35 period, and in the combs farther east may be noted the scruffy oak whose continued neglect is partly the result of local opposition to good forestry. On top there is much meagre scrub, varying from 2 to 20 ft. in height, and evidently burnt over at frequent intervals. But the Quantocks also have some good trees, as anyone may see in the little wood

Cothelstone is unusually good. It was at Cothelstone that Judge Jeffreys answered Lord Stawell's remonstrances against his inhumanity by hanging two of Monmouth's supporters either on or immediately before the piers which carried the main gates.

The highest point of the Quantocks, Will's Neck (1,261 ft.), rises above West Bagborough and Triscombe—whose gigantic quarry makes a gash visible from many miles in the Minehead direction. On the other or eastern side is the charmingly withdrawn village of Aisholt, the most remote from main roads of any of the Quantock villages. Perhaps it should be called a hamlet rather than a village, but it has a

noteworthy even by West Country standards, and a yew in the churchyard has been described as the oldest tree in Somerset.

The most famous of all the names associated with the Quantocks is, of course, William Wordsworth. Dorothy Wordsworth's *Journal* has already been quoted, and this is not the place to re-tell the often-told story of brother and sister renting Alfoxden (£23 for one year 1797-98), of Coleridge at Nether Stowey, of *The Ancient Mariner* and *Lyrical Ballads*, of Tom Poole, Charles Lamb and others, of counter-revolutionary spies and suspicions. The outline appears in a score of books, but perhaps most completely in W. Knight's *Coleridge and Wordsworth in the West Country*. (It would be interesting to know more of Wordsworth's return visit nearly 45 years later, in May, 1841.) But Wordsworth did not do as well on the Quantocks as Coleridge at their base: little or nothing of his best work was written during his year at Alfoxden. *Peter Bell*, chiefly famous for the often-quoted "A primrose by a river's brim," may for some people recall J. K. Stephens's cunning parody of a later sonnet:

*Two voices are there: one is of the deep;
And one is of an old half-witted sheep
Which bleats articulate monotony,
And Wordsworth, both are thine.*

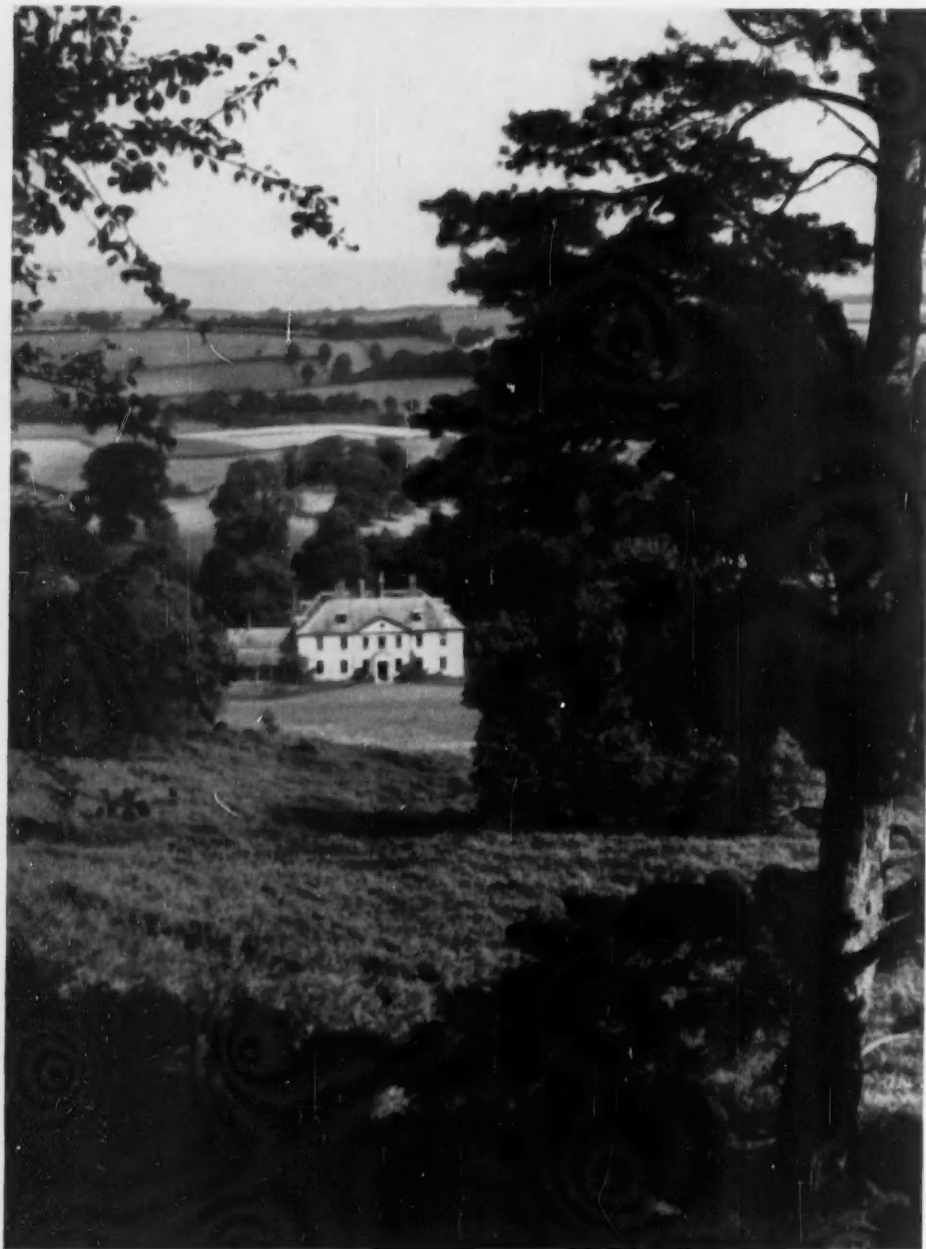
During the short Quantocks interlude the elderly ovine voice was already making itself heard, though Wordsworth was not yet 30.

Small area though the Quantocks may be, there are several aspects which might well receive whole articles to themselves. Quantock history; the woodwork of Quantock churches; Quantock quarries; Quantock woods; the wild life of the Quantocks—these are only a few. But anyone specially interested in history, up to the time of Monmouth's rebellion, may look to E. G. Greswell's *The Land of Quantock*. For more up-to-date information about Quantock topography, life and work there is Berta Lawrence's *Quantock Country*, which makes a good introduction and a fair appreciation except for bias against forestry.

The Quantocks have wild red deer and roe; they have blackgame—but not red grouse; they have badgers and foxes, perhaps more than enough. But neither the ponies nor the sheep which range the open part of the hills are of any special local breed, as they are on some of the Exmoor commons. In a few places (perhaps most notably near Crowcombe Park Gate) are good examples of the very tall beech hedges planted on banks and familiar to all who know Exmoor: the protection afforded by this narrowest kind of shelterbelt must be valuable to sheep and cattle. Quantock brooks, pretty and just big enough to support a very few dippers and grey wagtails, are minute compared with the waters of Exmoor. An unkind fisherman might enquire what is the Quantocks' record trout, but no one would be so absurd as to ask about Quantocks salmon. An interesting curiosity is the very strong hold which mimulus or monkey flower has taken in one or two places: the brook near the lower end of Cockercombe, for example, becomes so choked that frequent cutting is necessary. At a spot about one mile south-east from Cockercombe the rare red helleborine was said to have been found two or three generations ago, but there has been no confirmatory report since.

Fortunately the Quantock Hills are neither traversed full length nor bisected by a motor coach road, and even the narrow car road which does cross (but not run along) the range is so steep and tortuous as to be uninviting to mobs of idly inquisitive trippers. These hills, away from the main valley roads, are essentially walking and riding country, and there is not likely to be any opening-up process such as the development of tracks into tarmac roads. Which is all to the good, for the area, by reason of its smallness, would be particularly susceptible to damage—perhaps quite unintentional damage—by mob invasion.

Since the local opposition to the Exmoor National Park received much publicity, it is, perhaps, worth noting that the proposed designation of the Quantocks as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty under Part VI of the National Parks Act is warmly approved by the County Council.



ALFOXDEN PARK FROM THE SOUTH

above Alfoxden, where beech and sweet chestnut grow together, with a few oak and Scotch pine. Down by the house itself are two very large-girthed oaks—one not much more than a wreck or shell—whose appearance has probably changed little in the last 160 years.

The centre of the Quantocks range has on its eastern slopes the greatest concentration of modern forest: Ram's Combe and Seven Wells—with a particularly interesting mixed conifer plantation; Quantock Combe; and Cockercombe. On the western side are the village of Crowcombe, noted for the woodwork of its church, and for its church house, Bagborough and Cothelstone. Crowcombe, Bagborough and Cothelstone all have old woods, mostly mixed with beech predominating; the quality at

church. To the south are Buncombe Hill and the Tetton Woods, where grow wild lilies-of-the-valley of the rare pink sub-variety. Not far distant are Merridge and Broomfield, whose squire, Andrew Crosse, became famous for his electrical experiments in the early 19th century. Timber-growing was another of his interests (there are grand old beeches by the road to this day) and he delighted in the wild life to be observed near the home which prompted him to write: "I have a stake through my body that nails me to the Quantocks." At Fyne Court—to be very badly burnt in 1899—the philosopher-scientist squire was visited by such various people as Sydney Smith, Humphry Davy, the Dean of Westminster and Baron Liebig. Broomfield Church has carved bench-ends of a quality

WINTER COMES TO SKOKHOLM

By ANGELA DAVIS

WITH the approach of the winter months Skokholm, off the coast of Pembrokeshire, seems peaceful once more. Every week during the season from March to October, visitors have come to stay at the Bird Observatory and to ramble over the island, but now the last has regretfully returned to his mainland job and soon the three of us still here will be departing. We have enjoyed our visitors—bird-watchers, photographers, island-lovers and island-discoverers—have made good friends among them and will remember many more for their ability, enthusiasm or amiable eccentricity.

The evenings are quiet in the main room of the old dwelling-house. We feel the solitude of the island now and, after the noisy good humour of a roomful of people, are content to be silent beside the hearth and the open fire.

The silence is comfortably filled with the snap of the burning driftwood, the hiss of the hanging paraffin lamps and soft snorts from the sleeping dog as she whimpers after rabbits. The room itself has bare whitewashed walls with photographs of island birds, the shearwater and storm petrel, and a large aerial view of the whole island, its cliffs encircled by white water, over the mantel. It is good to gaze upon the scene and know that we are living on a sea-washed Pembrokeshire isle. In one corner of the living-room dark wood steps lead up to the sleeping-loft, whose floor forms our ceiling, whitened planks laid on thick dark beams. Below, the table is plain, rough wood now polished smooth, and the settle and chairs comfortable but not luxurious. Colour in the room comes from the crowded bookcase with its shelves of gay natural-history jackets and ornithological works, and from the living glow of the fire. The driftwood burns excitingly, with high flame and crackle, and tinted glass lobster floats glint with their own tiny fires.

There are no curtains across the deepset windows. For there is nobody to see the light from the lamp on the table, unless it is visible from the mainland three miles away, as a steady pinpoint of light below the red flash from the lighthouse. For us, the lights of the night are friendly landmarks. There is the bright occulting beam of St. Anne's light to the east, and near it a twinkling row which traverses the settlement on the flat clifftop. Then the mainland is dark beyond the faintly shimmering waters of Broad Sound, and round to the north we see again the lights from Solva before the black mass of Skomer Island blocks our view.

Perhaps these past months on Skokholm, where the birds are of more importance than the humans, have made us chary of facing the complexity of mainland life, for as the day of our departure draws near, we feel a despairing reluctance to leave, and walk over the island



THE DWELLING-HOUSE ON SKOKHOLM, AN ISLAND BIRD SANCTUARY OFF THE PEMBROKESHIRE COAST

each day seeing vividly and afresh the life which is native to its soil. As ever, the rabbits abound, fattening themselves for the winter on grass which is green once more after the parching summer drought. The rabbits are lean when we return in March and emerge tough from the weekly stewpot, but just now their tenderness is a luxury, and stuffed and roast whole they form a succulent meal. They will be undisturbed now, as the light-keepers rarely use them for food, and will share the island with the wild sheep, the goats and the old pony.

The sheep are scary creatures, the small dark Soay breed, of old St. Kilda stock, whose trodden paths over the island we are glad to use ourselves where the walking is rough. They are difficult to approach, although curious when the dog is with us, pausing until instinctive fear overcomes their interest and the flock scampers away, their thin legs carrying them nimbly over walls and ridges.

The goats are more amiable. They fend for themselves all the year round, roaming freely and finding their shelter beneath crags and near the observatory buildings. Most of them were born and bred on the island. The

old nanny we milked this year, whose kids died when they were born early in March, was quite willing to be rounded into the yard each day, and would trundle along the paths through bracken and heather with the goatherd strolling behind. Unfortunately her sensations were centred on the bread intake which accompanied the milk output and she never came to realise that a regular appearance at our gate was essential for her well-being. So often the herd would choose to spend a few days at the light-house end of the island and would lie comfortably chewing, watching the impatient human approach with an aggravatingly detached air before they floundered to their feet and shaped an erratic course toward the edge of the cliff.

Perhaps it is the oldest inhabitant of the island, the pony Sugarback, who will most notice our absence. Skokholm has been his home since 1933 and he can probably remember no other. He seems sturdy and well-nourished, and although his pace is becoming slower, he is still sometimes inspired to gallop down the meadow for a drink at the well. I expect that during the winter he will still stand at times beside the white gate into the yard, stolidly awaiting his opportunity to push it open and ravage the dustbin.

Most of our breeding birds have left the island now. Of the sea-birds, the puffins, razorbills and guillemots started on their winter wanderings several months ago, while we know of a belated shearwater which has only recently gone, and a storm petrel chick still downy in its burrow in one of the ancient stone and earth walls.

As compensation for the loss of these noisy summer residents, there are robins perching on the old lime-kiln and singing in the small valley above the harbour. Pipits and pied wagtails take the place of the sparrow—a rare bird. There are starlings too, but not behaving like the town birds, for they never venture into the yard after scraps and are often seen flying high with the lapwing flock. It is the lapwings who have become more daring of late and there are usually a few picking their way in the meadow beyond the house.

It is pleasant to be able to watch the birds from the window while we are washing up, and thrilling when a buzzard lands deliberately on the wall a few yards away. Always soaring round the island, this broad-winged silhouette will be overhead next week-end as, gales permitting, we carry the last of our packages down to the quay and the waiting boat.



THE CLIFFS OF SKOKHOLM SILHOUETTED IN THE EVENING SUN

WEST-COUNTRY FLOWERS IN SPAIN

By GEOFFREY GRIGSON

THOUGH fine old chestnut trees are not so common at home, our lunch place on the coastal road of northern Spain was uncommonly English. The grass was very green, the chestnuts were pillowed with green moss and scabbed with lichen; herb robert, cow-wheat, tormentil, betony grew around us, and with an English perfection the rain billowed softly and endlessly against the trees. It dripped from the trees, it bearded the flowers, the grass, the ferns. From English rain it differed only because it was hot, and not the cold, tap had been turned on.

A dismal episode, you might think, in a holiday—even though our lunch included fried veal and a soft sheep's milk cheese and cherries, and that delicious *membrillo*, or quince cheese, of Spain; and though the methylated spirit stove behaved, and though the wine was strong enough to translate us into a gentle forgetfulness of all dismay. Certainly the air was stifling; certainly through the rain, the fog, the cloud, the steam, we could not see what national monument it was which had induced us to turn aside at this point and so discover such a good place for a rainy luncheon; we did not even realise that the sea was only fifty yards away, breaking rather gently and silently through the mist on to a shingle bar.

Cornwall, I thought. That was it; it was Cornwall in high summer, in school holidays. Wet and warm and the wash-out of a family picnic. Then suddenly, looking across the glade, glancing down to see if the coffee was boiling over in the can, I had all my feelings of home and Cornwall, home and Devon and Dorset, intensified.

The reason, or a scrap of it, now lies in front of me on white paper, a pale green and most delicate blue reason, the spire of a plant which has no proper English name, perhaps no real vernacular name anywhere, in any language. It is a spire of *Lobelia urens*. Years ago those two Latin words were enough to make me shiver



TUTSAN, A TYPICAL PLANT OF THE WEST COUNTRY, WHICH THE AUTHOR FOUND GROWING IN NORTHERN SPAIN

with excitement. They stood for everything rare and unattained, if not unattainable, for the grail and the fire-bird; and here in this wet Asturian glade was *Lobelia urens*—acid lobelia—growing just beyond the coffee, plant after plant, spire after spire.

I had not noticed it at first. I had not been thinking of plants. I was thinking of lunch and of rain—of all the rain that some English child (her nose flat against the window) had undoubtedly commanded to go to Spain; I was thinking, too, of the caves with palæolithic drawings which I had come so far to see. At least there would be no rain inside the caves. All this was forgetful of me, since I had brought plant books with me, and a vasculum; but then I had never expected—in Spain—weather so abandoned and familiar, a heaviness so Atlantic (I had forgotten how near the Atlantic would be), with vegetation to match. As I picked spires of lobelia, watching the bitter white juice ooze from the stems, I remembered now, not only journeys after that particular plant at home, but all the wonder of those species which grow along the Atlantic seaboard, at last reaching Great Britain.

By the time they get to us, they are often diminished in frequency, often rare, with all the attraction of rarity. When I was small, I was made to cycle several miles between Looe and Lostwithiel,

Cornwall, to see *Lobelia urens*, to look at it, but not to pick it. There, in a small wood, grew about twenty plants in all; here, beyond the coffee and the methylated spirit stove, there were two hundred plants, at least. In its Cornish station *Lobelia urens* had been found by two Victorian ladies and then treasured by generation after generation of botanists. When these ladies discovered it, and perhaps still, the next nearest station was miles away in Devon. Not so far from Axminster, along a narrow road, you may still come to Lobelia Cottage, and to *Lobelia urens* growing among hen coops on a wet hillside; and you may read of its discovery in a little volume not infrequent in the second-hand bookshops of the West of England, *The Ferns of the Axe*, by the Rev. Z. I. Edwards, M.A., Rector of Compyne, and late Fellow of Wadham College, Oxford, 1862.

The ferns done with, at last the author comes to "The Flower of the Axe," piously describing how it was discovered near Axminster between 1762 and 1778—a flower "so rare, so peculiar to a certain portion of this locality, that not all England can produce its like again."

That last hyperbolic claim is not true nowadays, and probably was not true in the time of the Rev. Z. I. Edwards. At any rate, *Lobelia urens* has been found since in Hampshire, Wiltshire, Sussex and Herefordshire—"very local," says recent authority, "but apparently increasing." At home, rare; here in Spain, as we lunched under the chestnuts on the road from Llanes to Oviedo, plants by the hundred; here, as I soon came to realise, too common in every valley of the province of Asturias to bother about.

How blind one can be! I shifted the cooking stove. There, underneath, were trails of another of the plants of the warm and wet south-west of England (though its home range is wider)—trails of the little ivy campanula, or ivy-leaved bellflower. I looked again. It made a netting through all the grass, round the herb robert, the tormentil, the betony and the stems of lobelia. Desire awakened, in spite of the rain and the choking warmth, I began to search, in hopes of finding a third of the Cornish or south-western plants, the minute cornish moneywort, which has the most miniature flowers of pink. This cornish moneywort I did not find then or later; but from now on, as our days went by in Asturias and the province of Santander, plants



THE BLUE-FLOWERED COLUMBINE, AS MUCH AT HOME ON THE ATLANTIC COAST OF SPAIN AS IN CORNWALL



ANOTHER ATLANTIC SPECIES, THE WELSH POPPY, WHICH IS FOUND IN NORTHERN SPAIN, NOTABLY IN THE PYRENEES. (Right) "DOWN AMONG THE BOULDERS THERE WERE SEA-PINKS AS WELL"

kept suggesting to me that I was in a warmer and wetter Cornwall. Oceanic plant after plant thrust itself into notice. I would climb to a cave—there would be gorse (which is an Atlantic species) among the scrub, or the yellow flowers and darkening berries of tutsan (Bible leaf, because the dry leaves, pressed in a book, retain so delicious a fragrance), or ragged plants of wood sage. On rock or wall there would be dry spires of pennywort; and every corner was spotted with the white and green leaves of that lungwort which is wild with us only in Dorset, and the Isle of Wight, and more abundantly in the New Forest.

Going down into the wide funnel which led into another cave (but this was in the Pyrenees, on the French side), into a funnel filled at the bottom with blue mist, I encountered my first wild plants of the Welsh poppy, an oceanic, or Atlantic, species again. Deep in that cave, in the darkness on the other side of the blue mist and the yellow flowers, a palaeolithic artist had drawn a horse, life-sized, in red ochre, on a block of fallen limestone which was as large as a room.

More than once we found ourselves in a palaeolithic cavern, alongside palaeolithic drawings of horse, bison or deer, the light of our carbide lamps shining also on a bunch of flowers we had hurriedly picked at the entrance. It was so in the depth—the considerable depth—of Las Chimineas (the Chimney), a newly-found cave in a hill not very far from Altamira. It was incongruous, and in a way touching, to see the flowers as we bent to look through a crack in the floor at the calcified, glittering bones of a cave bear, or as we wedged into a corner to examine the black outline of stags and hinds drawn underground on the cave wall some 20,000 years ago. Las Chimineas is one of several caves in the peak or sharp hill named Pena de Nuestra Señora del Castillo; a path encircles the peak, joining cave to cave, and the sides of the path are diapered with plants familiar in the west of England—the Cornish heath, the Lusitanian heath (which has gone wild on railway embankments in Cornwall), wild madder; and the bastard balm, that locally common plant of lanes in Devon and Cornwall, flaunting blossoms of white blotched with pink or purplish pink.

The plant, though, which signs the approach to every cave, here at Castillo and elsewhere, the signature plant of the limestone of northern Spain, does not cross the Channel, though we know it well enough in gardens. It is that shrubby, intensely blue-flowered gromwell, *Lithospermum diffusum*.

Above all caves, or cave entrances, I

remember Pindal for its medley of plants, familiar in our own south-west and unfamiliar. Pindal is an Asturian cave, famous for its drawings, which opens in wild cliffs off the long road from Santander to Oviedo. Along this coast gaunt triangular hills of sandstone overlie a fretted limestone edge—cliffs, indentations, sea-arches, isolated rocks. It is a coast of oddity and excellence. Pindal opens in a cleft immediately above the sea, which it faces sideways on. On a rocky, shrubby platform above there is a pilgrimage chapel, hung with offerings of feet modelled out of candle wax, a holy well, and a farm. Steps lead down from the platform, into the cleft, walled with rock on three sides, open to the sea on the fourth side, the sea lapping on boulders fifty or sixty feet below. The steps end on a small meadow, which the farmer has scythed between the cave and the slope down to the boulders and the sea.

Lilies crowded around this meadow, but they belonged to Spain and not England (they were yellow Turk's caps), and the petals were mostly fallen. Still, you can find the yellow Turk's cap naturalised in the West of England, and Cornwall could certainly have provided a good many more of the plants crowding around this scythed lawn in the cleft or flourishing lower down by the sea and the boulders. There was tutsan again, there were blue columbines and

pink valerian, wild yellow snapdragons, and wild asparagus; then down among the boulders, sea spleenwort, huge fronds of it, larger and more splendidly shining than you find it in those nooks in the cliffs of Cornwall where you leave towel and clothes. There were sea-pinks as well, and samphire, not to mention wild vine and figs. Never has a cave entrance, a forecourt in front of darkness, seemed to me so happy, though the day was overcast (not raining, for once). But it was a forecourt of flowers above the green water more suited to classical nymphs than to rough and belching palaeolithic hunters and artists.

At times even the width of landscape reminded one of Cornwall, even more of Ireland—a west coast of Ireland with the heat laid on and the rain intensified and the fertility quadrupled. This was a matter more of stone-walled fields to the very edge of the cliffs than of vegetation, though there was one plant to recall Ireland especially—royal fern, osmunda, in abundance everywhere, even down the cracks in the cliff. Keep one's eyes open, as one travels on the other side of the Channel, and it is fascinating to find the rare becoming abundant or common. It is moving, also, to observe not so much the differences in vegetation, as the wild plants we all have in common. It makes the western world seem small, and a community.

Illustrations: John Markham.



"THERE WAS ONE PLANT TO RECALL IRELAND ESPECIALLY—ROYAL FERN"

DISCOVERING PORTUGUESE ART

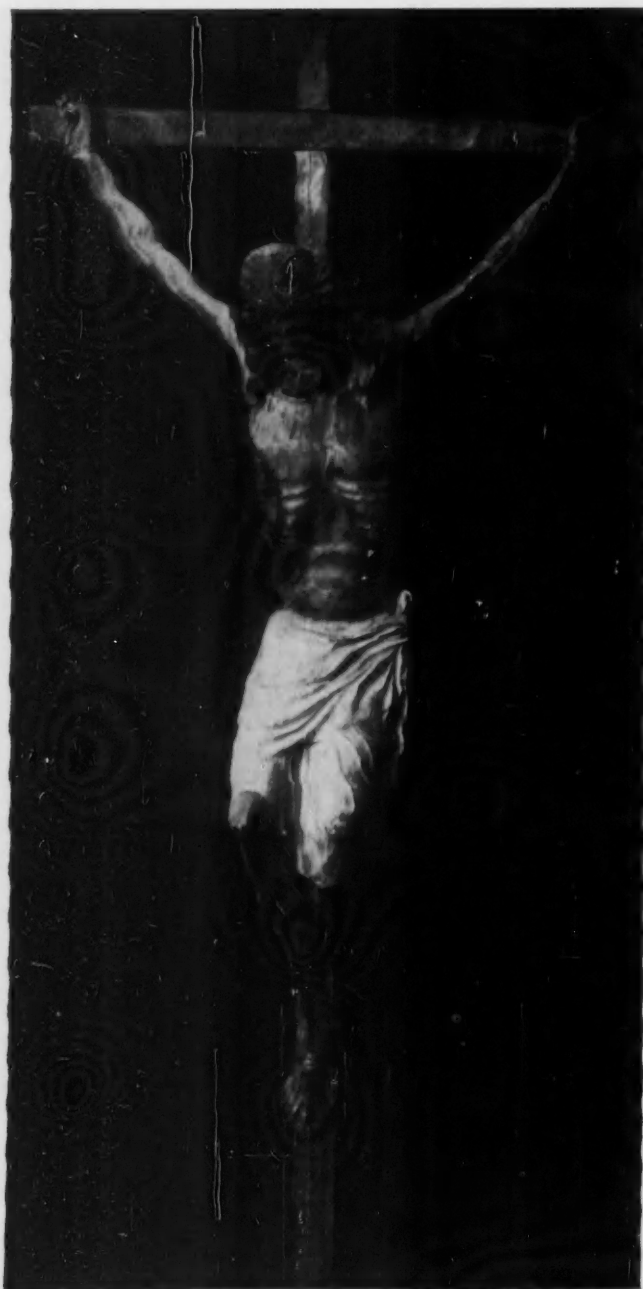
By DENYS SUTTON

TO be faced with the art of a country which is relatively unknown is always an exhilarating experience. All the more so—as is the case with the winter exhibition at the Royal Academy—when it is presented with taste and discretion. Although Professor Reynaldo dos Santos and his assistant Madame Quilhó have obviously been unable to bring with them the exuberant Romanesque cathedrals of Lisbon, Oporto or Coimbra, or the celebrated monasteries of Alcobaça and Batalha, or to demonstrate the individuality of the luxuriant Manueline style, with the exception of the fountain with the arms of King Manuel the Fortunate (1495-1521)—after whom the style is called—and Queen Leonor, they have done the next best thing and provided a selection of photographs. These constitute a necessary introduction to the wide range of art displayed and they suggest the appropriate setting against which objects as different as ecclesiastical plate and 18th-century chairs must be considered.

Inevitably the visitor, after a perambulation of the whole exhibition that will introduce many facets of Portuguese art (including the enchanting coach of Queen Maria Francisca),



LATE-10th-CENTURY SILVER-GILT CHALICE. (Right) 17th-CENTURY FAIENCE BASIN DECORATED IN THE CHINESE TASTE. The works of art illustrated in this article are from the exhibition of Portuguese art on view at the Royal Academy until February 19



CHRIST ON THE CROSS: AN EARLY-14th-CENTURY PAINTED WOOD FIGURE. (Right) OUR LORD IN THE GARDEN: A PANEL FROM THE EARLY-16th-CENTURY POLYPTYCH BY THE MASTER OF VISEU

will return to the rooms devoted to Romanesque and Gothic art. There he may dwell on Nuno Gonçalves's impressive set of five panels, *The Veneration of St. Vincent*, the patron saint of the nation and of the royal house. This polyptych represents all classes of society from King to pilgrim, from the Chapter of Lisbon and the Benedictine monks of Alcobaça to the Dukes of Braganza and the noble knights, sea-captains and generals, fishermen, Jews and Moors. As Professor dos Santos well says, these "are the *Lusiadas* of the 15th century of which the Portuguese poet Camoens sang a hundred years later."

It is one of the most telling narrative pictures of the epoch, in which the central theme, the veneration of a saint, is diversified and brought to life by an individual interpretation of character, frieze-like in form, that suddenly recalls the heads in certain pictures by Jan van Scorel or Courbet's *Burial at Ornans*. The personal life of each sitter is so emphasised that Gonçalves may be understood as a prime poet of that humanist tradition which formed the theme of a recent exhibition at Brussels. What affords these monumental panels (which have received full-length treatment in Professor dos Santos's Phaidon volume) their special attraction is the way in which shrewd observation is blended with the mysterious inner quality of the sitter. Despite the experiment in foreshortening that occurs in the panel of fishermen with their net the figures are seen in the round and recall Burgundian art. Working some thirty years later than Jan van Eyck and placed in time between Rogier van der Weyden and the Maître de Moulins, Gonçalves emerges as a polished exponent of the international court style. The catalogue reminds one that the sister of Henry the Navigator, whose posthumous portrait, akin



PORTRAIT OF HENRY THE NAVIGATOR: A DETAIL FROM *THE VENERATION OF ST. VINCENT*, BY NUNO GONÇALVES, ABOUT 1465. (Right) PORTRAIT OF DR. NEVES, BY DOMINGOS ANTONIO DE SEQUEIRA, DATED 1825



to van Eyck in sentiment, appears in the picture, was married to the Duke of Burgundy.

Whether or not the supreme calm and the hieratic pose of Gonçalves's masterpiece radiate national character as well as the international style is a complex matter, and, as Professor Pevsner is now reminding us in his Reith Lectures, the geography of art, when not obvious, is often nebulous. What is clear, however, as the image of Portuguese art begins to take shape in the mind, is that its 16th-century painters were deeply indebted to Flanders and above all to the

Antwerp mannerists. To defend the actual quality of this group would be a gallant task, and, on the whole, those masters who have been identified are of minor importance. In this connection, one hopes that the fruits of Professor dos Santos's researches—his rôle in Portugal has been analogous to that of Professor Post in Spain—will be made available in this country. His analysis, either in his specialist articles or in his more general volume, *L'Art Portugais*, permits a firm grasp of such personalities as Cristovao de Figueiredo or Vasco Fernandes. Broadly speaking, these were artists able to express their ideas by means of strongly contorted draperies. At times, as in the Master of Viseu's *Our Lord in the Garden*, a rather novel and striking interpretation of a familiar theme was secured—one, indeed, that is deeply moving.

On the whole, however, Portuguese painters are disappointing, though, here and there, the attention is riveted by a single canvas. Of particular power and interest is the late-16th-

century *Portrait of a Nun* by an anonymous master. It suggests that Velasquez (who came from Oporto) was maintaining a tradition in Spain that to some extent derived from his own background; a comparison of this picture with Velasquez's *Dona Gerónima à la Fuente* at Tissington Hall is relevant. Domingos Vieira emerges as a delicate face painter and Domingos Antonio de Sequeira, whose portrait of Dr. Neves is in the Ashmolean Museum, suggests a parallel with Goya, though lacking this artist's force. A painter of whom one would like to see more is Francisco Vieira Portuense; he spent several years in Italy and is represented by a gracious portrait of Angelica Kauffman painting, which probably dates from his Italian stay.

The exhibition is not devoted to paintings only and the special taste of the organisers is shown in the arrangement of the objects. Here one is struck by the high quality of the Romanesque pieces; the 10th-century silver-gilt chalice, for instance, is a brilliant example of virile ornamentation. Although much of the early sculpture possesses that rather sweet decorative note which re-occurs with the Baroque, the early-14th-century *Christ on the Cross* joins the great series of painted wood figures that introduce a new conception of Our Lord in agony.

Indeed, few elements seem (to a neophyte of Portuguese art) to stamp the examples of Romanesque and Gothic as being specially Portuguese; the silver-gilt reliquary with its gracious linearism could as well be found elsewhere. As a whole, the early items underline the high degree of craftsmanship, so exquisitely evident in the Belém monstrance. At a later stage, however, a virile expressionism could mark a sculptor such as Odarte.

Inevitably, Portugal's rôle as a pioneer in the Far East made her the first country to understand and interpret Oriental design; and, as certain of the pieces show, Portuguese craftsmen made glazed pottery earlier than Delft and at least from the beginning of the 17th century. How interesting such cultural exchange, the result of trade relations, could prove is stressed by the Indo-Portuguese furniture of the 17th century. Seen together with the textiles and the *azulejos* (glazed tiles), against a background of gilt Baroque doors, the atmosphere is suggested for the characters who appear so amusingly in Eça de Queiroz's novels. It would be interesting to know if this novelist's particular ironic wit can be paralleled in late-19th-century Portuguese art.



17th-CENTURY CABINET ON STAND IN THE INDO-PORTUGUESE STYLE

NEED FOR A NATIONAL WATERWAYS CONSERVANCY

By ROBERT AICKMAN. (Founder and Vice-President, The Inland Waterways Association)

IN the middle of the 19th century most of the River Thames was in ruins and almost without traffic. It looked as most of our canals and rivers look to-day. The railway was pressing forward everywhere with incredible speed, alike of construction and of operation. By the logic favoured to-day in official circles, it was no time to waste money on restoring the Thames. The Thames plainly belonged to the past.

But the restricted (properly restricted) outlook of the accountant did not dominate discussion of the situation. It was perceived that the decline of the Thames had another cause than railway competition. The river had long been administered by a Thames Commission, set up in 1751, upon which every man owning land in the Thames Valley to a taxable value of £100 was automatically a Commissioner. A century later the increase in population and wealth brought about by the Industrial Revolution had led to there being more than ten thousand Commissioners. The consequences were inefficiency and corruption: only those Commissioners with personal interests to advance tended to think it worth while to participate in the Commission's business.

Parliament met the situation with wisdom: it transferred the management of the Thames from the out-of-date Commission to a newly-constituted Thames Conservancy, representing the different interests concerned—commercial navigation, land drainage, water supply and, later, angling and pleasure boating. Since then the Thames has become in most respects a model river, although, regrettably, little is done, largely owing to the influence of the water-supply representatives, to encourage new commercial traffic. And the change has come about without big levies on the taxpayer.

The situation on the general waterways system to-day is remarkably similar to that on the Thames before the establishment of the Conservancy. The fundamental troubles are administration by a totally unsuitable authority, which is preoccupied with the prosperity of quite different enterprises, and failure to realise that the losses sustained from competition by other mediums of transport (to-day, largely the

road) can by wise and determined management be made up from sources which barely existed when most of the canals in question were built and the rivers made navigable.

Since the Transport Act of 1953 the British Transport Commission, which controls more than 2,000 miles of statutory navigation (about one-third as much again remains in other hands), has become more than ever a railway authority; and it has been clearly established by a whole series of independent public enquiries that the main reason for the decline of the waterways is that Parliament, unlike the legislatures of other countries faced with a similar situation, unwisely permitted the railway companies to acquire so many of them that they were able to dominate, and paralyse, the whole industry. (Anyone who doubts this should read the evidence given before the great Royal Commission of 1906.) There is a long-standing antagonism to waterways on the part of railwaymen, which it may not be too much to suggest has a deep unconscious origin. The need to finance and assure the success of the new £1,112,000,000 plan for the railways, itself excellent in most ways, and long overdue, seems to have led to a panic within the Commission: branch lines are being shut wholesale, railway



A CHAIN OF COAL BARGES ENTERING DENVER SLUICE LOCK, IN NORFOLK, ON THE GREAT OUSE



THE CRUMLIN BRANCH OF THE MONMOUTHSHIRE CANAL AT RISCA. Only small pleasure craft such as the kayak in the foreground can use this canal, which has been abandoned and is falling into dereliction

hotels sold off and plans pressed forward for the extinction of almost the whole waterways system. The Inland Waterways Association has never suggested that the British Transport Commission should be compelled to manage waterways it does not want.

The whole record of the Commission shows, on the contrary, glaring unsuitability for waterway management of any kind. Since nationalisation much has been done for the waterways by unpaid amateurs, for example, on Shakespeare's Avon.

For at least a hundred years the waterways have suffered grievously from atomised administration. The British Transport Commission is empowered to consider only commercial traffic; River Boards (with one or two exceptions) can think of little beyond land drainage—and at public expense have replaced by fixed dams the former locks on such beautiful rivers as the Welland, Lark, Little Ouse, Waveney and Bure, which otherwise they maintain in excellent order, swept but dead. (A similar fate would be likely to overtake most navigations



THE KENNET AND AVON CANAL IN THE SIDNEY GARDENS AT BATH. This wide canal, which connects the Thames and the Severn, though not officially abandoned, is unnavigable owing to obstruction and neglect. The stretch shown in the photograph is obstructed by electric cables for lighting up the ornamental waterfowl below the bridge at night

transferred to River Boards from the Transport Commission.) There is not even a single Ministry responsible: such a major waterway as the River Great Ouse, navigable at least since the early Middle Ages, is the concern of the Ministry of Agriculture, which frequently proclaims considerable disinterest in navigation.

The crucial principle for the future is that of multiple use. Commercial traffic should be encouraged in every way (at present on most waterways there is no encouragement whatever), especially in order to draw as much slow, heavy traffic as possible from the railway, which it makes sluggish, and the road, which it makes lethal.

The second step towards a proper future for the waterways should be an immense programme of modernisation and enlargement. But the same waterways, new or old, should also be used for large-scale water supply, as proposed by Mr. J. F. Pownall, the James Brindley of today; and, in the new industrial revolution of automation and an absurd "leisure problem," for recreation also. There are at least 3,000,000 regular anglers in this country, and interest in pleasure boating is growing rapidly. It is utterly unrealistic to disregard such new developments and sources of possible revenue. And it should further be said that to-day it often costs more in the long run to abandon a waterway than to maintain it. At the time of writing no less than £93,000 is being spent by the Nottingham Corporation on filling in two miles of the Nottingham Canal. This waterway was abandoned by a railway company in the 1930s, when perhaps £10,000 would have restored the whole fifteen miles of it. What now is to be done with the thirteen miles that have been made derelict and dangerous? Such questions are arising all over the country. But it is not the British Transport Commission that pays the ultimate bills.

It is the individual case histories that most impress; and in an article of this length there is little room for them. They would, in fact, fill several large books: an almost incredible accumulation of unwisdom, apathy, unnecessary destruction—and of the unimaginative or self-interested tail wagging the lazy national dog. The case for a National Waterways Conservancy is unanswerable to those who will study the facts. The Conservancy should be given authority (or, in certain cases where existing conditions are satisfactory, merely a general power of

inspection and supervision) over the whole waterways system as it survives to-day; should be required to restore and maintain it, and to develop it in all its functions and potential functions; and should be representative of all the interests affected. If desired, the British Transport Commission could be given a lease of the few waterways in which they are interested. All waterway revenues should flow to the single new authority. The precedent of the Thames is only one reason for believing that, with enterprise and devotion, the Conservancy could gradually restore the whole system to good order, and make it pay its way without large-scale recourse to the Treasury. Later should come the

big programme of modernisation. But the indispensable first step is to stop further abandonments.

There is an immense swing of opinion in favour of the National Waterways Conservancy. Already 180 Members of Parliament from all parties are pledged to an enquiry into the scheme; and recently the Midlands Trade Council, representing 600,000 trade unionists, voted unanimously in its favour. Given a few more years, there would be no doubt at all. But the British Transport Commission, following the report of the unsatisfactory Board of Survey (which recommended almost nothing not officially and publicly proposed before it was set up), is going to seek powers of abandonment "immediately" for no less than 771 miles of statutory navigation. A further 994 miles are in jeopardy that is only slightly less immediate. They are to be "retained for the present," but as nothing is to be done to restore, improve or publicise them, their death sentence is merely suspended. And the present annual loss on the nationalised waterways is only £184,000, even according to the Board of Survey: an increase in revenue of only 7 per cent. would dispose of it.

The heritage of our waterways can be compared in beauty only with our parish churches and our great country houses. Their systematic spoliation is a national scandal. The future will get almost everything or almost nothing.



A DRAINED SECTION OF THE LANCASTER CANAL TWO-AND-A-HALF MILES FROM KENDAL, IN WESTMORLAND. The draining of this section, said to be necessary owing to excessive leakages, has cut off Kendal from access by water



THE TRENT AND MERSEY CANAL RUNNING BESIDE AN IRON WORKS AT ETRURIA, STAFFORDSHIRE



1.—LOOKING DOWN ON THE NORTH FRONT OF THE HOUSE FROM ST. MARTHA'S HILL

CHILWORTH MANOR, SURREY—I

THE HOME OF SIR LIONEL AND LADY HEALD By GORDON NARES

Part of the house and the notable garden were formed in the middle of the 17th century, probably by Vincent Randyll, a gunpowder-maker. The north front is traditionally ascribed to Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, who bought the Chilworth estate in 1725. The house was restored in the 1930s.

FOR decades archaeologists and scholars have argued about the exact route of the so-called Pilgrims' Way, from Winchester to Canterbury, and particularly that stretch of it which passes Guildford. Some writers, like Captain E. R. James and Hilaire Belloc—whose enthusiasm perhaps caused them to ignore contrary evidence—championed the theory that the Way, after crossing the River Wey above Guildford, ascended to St. Catherine's Chapel and the chapel on St. Martha's Hill, north of Chilworth. St. Martha, according to this theory, is a corruption of Martyr—obviously St. Thomas à Becket to whose shrine at Canterbury the pilgrims were going. Captain James, in elaboration of the idea, identifies the site of Chilworth Manor with a monastery whose inhabitants fed and housed the pilgrims on their journey.

Unfortunately there are drawbacks—to say the least—to this theory. The rendering Martyr for Martha seems to have been very rare before the 17th century, and is more likely to have been a corruption of local Surrey dialect than a reference to St. Thomas. Moreover, far from being a prosperous building, as one would imagine if it were on the pilgrims' route, the hill-top chapel is known to have been in a state of considerable decay in 1463. There are reasons for thinking that, in fact, the Pilgrims' Way followed the line of the downs farther to the north, and for this reason one must probably discount any connection between Chilworth and the pilgrims. There is a tradition, however, that the house was

originally a cell of Newark Priory—which held the advowson of St. Martha's Chapel—and the tradition is encouraged by the presence of two stew-ponds to the south-west of the house. *The Victoria County History* (Vol. III, 1911) endorses this theory, but it is regarded as "untenable" by Mr. Wilfrid Hooper (*Surrey Archaeological Collections*, Vol. XLIV, 1936). We shall do better, perhaps, to look for the origins of the house not among monks and pilgrims but in something at first sight much more improbable—gunpowder.

From the 16th century until well within living memory gunpowder-mills and paper-mills clustered along the short length of the Tillingbourne, which flows from above Wotton past Shere, Albury and Chilworth to

join the Wey at Shalford. Despite the bellicose nature of its product the short valley always had a most peaceful and pretty setting, and Aubrey called it "a little romancy vale." Cobbett knew Chilworth well—his birthplace was only a few miles away—and it inspired that most articulate of peasants to write a typically impassioned description (*Rural Rides*, November 30, 1822): "This valley, which seems to have been created by a bountiful providence as one of the choicest retreats of man; which seems formed for a scene of innocence and happiness, has been, by ungrateful man, so perverted as to make it instrumental in effecting two of the most damnable of purposes; in carrying into execution two of the most damnable inventions that ever sprang from the minds of men

under the influence of the devil! namely, the making of gunpowder and of bank-notes! Here in this tranquil spot, where the nightingales are to be heard earlier and later in the year than in any other part of England; where the first bursting of the buds is seen in spring, where no rigour of seasons can ever be felt; where everything seems formed for precluding the very thought of wickedness; here has the devil fixed on as one of the seats of his grand manufactory; and perverse and ungrateful man not only lends him his aid, but lends it cheerfully! As to the gunpowder, indeed we might get over that. In some cases that may be innocently, and, when it sends the lead at the hordes that support a tyrant, meritoriously employed. The alders and the willows,



2.—THE APPROACH TO THE JACOBEOAN SOUTH FRONT



3.—THE 17th-CENTURY FLOWER GARDEN, TERRACED OUT OF THE SIDE OF ST. MARTHA'S HILL

therefore, one can see, without so much regret, turned into powder by the water of this valley; but, the *bank-notes!*" And so on.

The first gunpowder-makers in the neighbourhood were George Evelyn, the diarist's grandfather, and his son John, who early in the 17th century worked mills at Godstone and later, it seems, near Wotton. After Charles I came to the throne John Evelyn had a rival in the East India Company, which leased some mills at Chilworth after unsuccessfully starting to make powder near Windsor Forest, "where owing to the prejudice

received by the deer it had been necessary to stop." The owner of the mills leased by the company was Sir Edward Randyll, of Chilworth Manor.

Chilworth is one of two manors in the parish of St. Martha's—Tyting is the other—and the Domesday survey records that it was held by one Alwin during the reign of Edward the Confessor, and after the Conquest by Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, half-brother of William the Conqueror. Throughout most of the Middle Ages its descent followed that of the near-by manor of Utworth, which was

held by a family named Utworth. By 1580 the manors had come to William Morgan, who is believed to have been descended from the Utworths. William Morgan made over the manors to his son John, who sold Utworth in 1614 but retained Chilworth. John Morgan, who was knighted at Cadiz in 1596 and died in 1621, was married four times, but he had only one daughter, Anne, who married Sir Edward Randyll and brought him Chilworth.

Sir Edward had died before 1640, when his eldest son Morgan was declared insane and Chilworth devolved upon the second son,



4.—THE TERRACE ALONG THE NORTH SIDE OF THE FLOWER GARDEN. (Right) 5.—THE CLAIRE-VOIE IN THE NORTH WALL



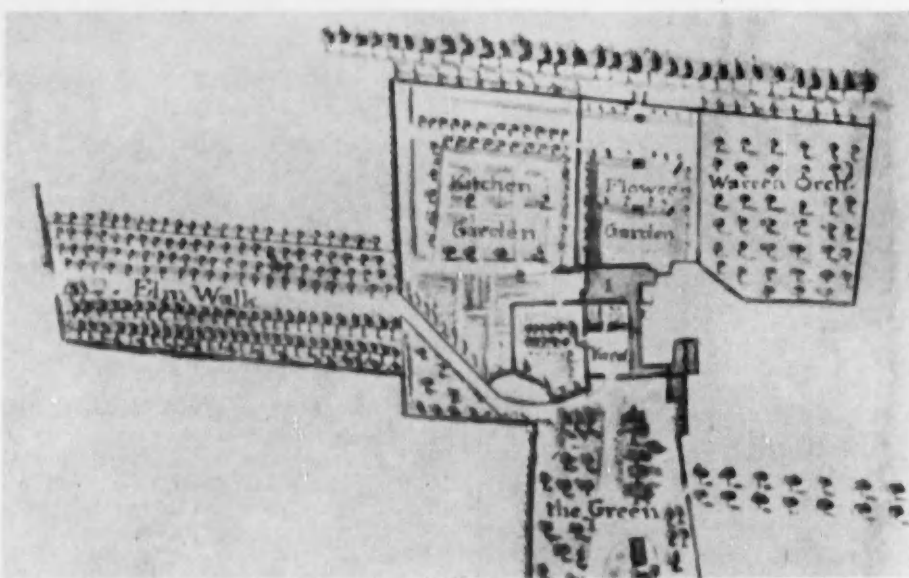
6.—THE MIDDLE LAWN OF THE FLOWER GARDEN

Vincent, who during the Commonwealth began to work the powder-mills himself. Vincent Randyll died in 1673 and was succeeded by his son Morgan, who followed his grandfather's example by leasing the mills. One of the lessees was a gentleman with the delightful name of Sir Polycarpus Wharton, who, like the Evelyns before him, found that the Government were quick to order gunpowder but slow to pay for it. By 1710 he was in a debtor's prison—and Cobbett would doubtless have said that it served him right. Morgan Randyll also fell into debt, but because of politics, not gunpowder. He represented Guildford in Parliament frequently between 1680 and 1715, but spent so much on successive elections that in 1720 he was forced to sell Chilworth with its mills, which were bought by a woollen-draper called Richard Houlditch. During the Randylls' century-long tenure of Chilworth the earliest recognisable part of the house was built, but before giving a more precise description it might be advisable to bring the history of the manor up to the present day.

Richard Houlditch's ownership of Chilworth was short. He was a director of the

South Sea Company and after the bubble burst in 1721 he was forced to sell his property to indemnify the victims of his speculation. Chilworth was bought by Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, who had bought her Wimbledon estate from another South Sea Company director at about the same time. She is believed to have lived occasionally at Chilworth and to have built the north front. When she died in 1744 she left the estate to her grandson, the Hon. John Spencer, whose grandson, the 2nd Earl Spencer, sold it to Edmund Hill, a Hounslow powder-maker, in 1796. From Hill it passed to another powder-maker named William Tinkler, who was the owner in Cobbett's day. William Tinkler's son, also William, sold it in 1845 to Mr. Henry Drummond, of Albury, and thus it came to the Dukes of Northumberland. After the Tinklers' purchase Chilworth was used mainly as a farm-house, but it was restored by Mr. Alfred Mildmay, who bought it from the Duke of Northumberland in the 1930s. When Mr. Mildmay died in 1945 it was sold by his sister to Sir Lionel and Lady Heald.

There are three main stages in the evolution of the house as it stands to-day



7.—DETAIL OF AN ESTATE MAP OF 1728, SHOWING THE HOUSE AND GARDENS. North is at the top



8.—THE WEST WALL OF THE FLOWER GARDEN

First comes the Randylls' house, built presumably on the site of an earlier building, which in turn may mark the site of the mediæval cell of Newark Priory. The exact date of the Randylls' rebuilding is uncertain, but judging by the entrance front on the south (Figs. 2 and 10)—the only part to survive—it was built in the middle of the 17th century, and therefore presumably by Vincent Randyll. It is constructed of stone with rubbed brick dressings and a central porch with a shaped brick gable in the style which Mr. John Summerson has aptly called Artisan Mannerist. Outstanding examples of this style are the house now known as Kew Palace (1631), Broome Park, Kent (about 1635), and the stables at Packwood House, Warwickshire (about 1660), but there are also two notable houses near Chilworth: West Horsley Place and Slyfield Manor, both of which were built about 1630. It is unlikely that the Artisan Mannerist building at Chilworth took place before these two houses were built, but it was almost certainly completed by 1664, when "Vincent Randall Esqre." was assessed for thirteen hearths for the hearth tax—indicating a building of considerable size. The most probable date for this front is the early 1650s, both from its appearance and from the fact

that Vincent Randyll must then have been living there supervising his gunpowder-mills.

The second stage in the building of Chilworth is the Classical rectangular block on the north (Figs. 1 and 9), which has justifiably been attributed to the period of Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough's ownership. The west side of this block (left of Fig. 10), facing the lawn, is of red brick, but the north side, with its curiously haphazard arrangement of Ionic pilasters, is stuccoed (Fig. 9). It gives the appearance of having once extended farther to the east—and Cobbett records that the house had been considerably larger than it was in his day, when it was occupied by a farmer and, it seems, had declined in condition. The house was rescued from this decline when it was restored by Mr. Mildmay, who rebuilt the middle part of the house (Fig. 10)—the third stage—linking what may be called the Randyll wing to the Marlborough wing. Further consideration of the house itself will have to be postponed until next week, and the remainder of this article will concern what is perhaps the outstanding single feature of Chilworth—the garden.

As with so much else at Chilworth, it is impossible to decide on an exact date for the foundation of the garden, but from the character of the surviving brick piers one can fairly assume that it was formed at the same time as the entrance front of the house, that is to say during the reign of Vincent Randyll about 1650. At all events, the salient points of the lay-out have been unchanged since at least 1728, as a comparison of the estate map of that date (Fig. 7) and the accompanying photographs will show. From this map it appears that originally on the north side of the house were three distinct gardens, separated by walls: the kitchen garden on the west, the flower garden in the middle and the orchard on the right. To the north and south-west



9.—THE EARLY-18th-CENTURY NORTH FRONT

of the house was a formal garden, with an elm avenue on the west. The kitchen garden and the elm avenue have now disappeared, and a lawn has taken the place of the garden on the west side of the house, but there is still a wild garden to the south-west around the stew-ponds, the orchard survives and so, most notably of all, does the flower garden.

This lies immediately to the north of the house, and is overlooked by the windows of the Marlborough wing. It is in three main tiers, terraced out of the ever-steepening slope of St. Martha's Hill (Fig. 3). Each tier is turfed, and is separated from the one above by a stone retaining-wall surmounted by a flower border backed by apple trees. Simple stone steps lead from one tier to the next, and these can be seen clearly in the old map. Above the third, or top, tier is a narrow terrace (Fig. 1) punctuated by pairs of tall Irish

yews. In the middle of this terrace, on the axis of the steps down to the house, is a *claire-voie* of wooden palings framed by rusticated brick piers (Fig. 5). The massive stone walls which envelop the north, east and west sides of the flower garden seem to be rather later in date than the *claire-voie*, judging by the treatment of the junction between the brickwork and the masonry, and it may be that the garden was originally fenced entirely with ranks of piers and palings, as can be seen on the north side of the kitchen garden and the orchard in the plan (Fig. 7)—which, incidentally, shows beyond them an alley of trees that has also disappeared. The stone walls must have been built before this plan was made in 1728, however, and it is not impossible that they were built at the instigation of Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough. A feature of these walls is that the pointing is garretted with small dark flints, giving the effect almost of a *pointilliste* painting. Owing to the slope of the ground the west wall, which near its north end has a gateway with brick piers similar to those of the *claire-voie*, terminates at its southern end in a colossal brick moulded pier (Fig. 8).

When one considers the vicissitudes which the house has experienced, it is even more remarkable that this garden should have survived unscathed for three centuries—to provide one of the rare examples in this country of an original 17th-century garden. In view of the proximity of Wotton, where before he inherited it himself John Evelyn frequently stayed with his brother and designed parts of the garden for him, it is tempting to think that he might have advised the Randylls at Chilworth about their garden, just as he was later to do for Henry Howard at another neighbouring house, Albury.

(To be concluded)



10.—FROM THE SOUTH-WEST. THE 17th-CENTURY ENTRANCE FRONT IS ON THE RIGHT

OPERATION BEE-EATER

Written and Illustrated by S. BAYLISS SMITH

FOR most naturalists in Britain the tropical-plumaged bee-eater is a bird they have only stared at incredulously in the pages of a bird book. It belongs, with the roller and the nutcracker, to an ornithological dreamland. But for many hundreds of bird-watchers in Sussex this year the dream became a reality. In the wonderful summer, for the first time in the annals of British ornithology, the fabulous bee-eater successfully reared its young in this country.

It must have been a rare and happy combination of circumstances that made possible this year's unique achievement, which was referred to briefly in COUNTRY LIFE of August 18 and at somewhat greater length in the issue of September 8, for the British Isles are far outside the bird's normal breeding range. Indeed, in Western Europe bee-eaters have rarely bred north of the Iberian peninsula, the Camargue and northern Italy. It is true that isolated records of vagrant bee-eaters seen on passage at migration time appear in our county bird reports from time to time, but until this year no successful breeding had ever been recorded. An isolated pair attempted nesting operations near Edinburgh in 1920, but they met with disaster. The female was trapped at the nest, and kept in captivity for several days in a greenhouse, where she laid an egg before dying of starvation, being quite unable to eat the bread crumbs offered to her as food; the male was subsequently killed by a cat.

How, then, was this year's success achieved? In the first instance, a vagrant party of bee-eaters must have crossed the Channel in late spring, no doubt assisted by the easterly winds that prevailed until so late this year. Reports of bee-eaters observed in many widely-scattered localities during the next few weeks suggest that they were questing about for a suitable nesting locality for some time. At last six of them found a place ideally suited to their purpose. In a quiet corner of Sussex, in a district of scattered cottages and remote farmsteads, they discovered a sand pit well off the beaten track, and a mile away from the nearest hamlet. A weed-fringed pool within the pit gave promise of an abundant supply of dragonflies in the forthcoming weeks, and the surrounding field—a wilderness of tussocky grass—would, in a hot summer, be a paradise for insect life of every kind. And so, without arousing more than a casual interest from the local inhabitants, these distinguished visitors moved into their breeding quarters.

A flourishing colony of sand-martins was already in occupation, but bee-eaters are happy to have these lively little birds as neighbours—especially if advantage can be taken of a tunnel in the sand already half-excavated

by one of them. And so, unsuspected and unobserved, the bee-eaters' nesting activities began. And day after day, and week after week, the sun blazed down from cloudless skies. It was wonderful bee-eater weather. Sussex had become a second Côte d'Azur. For three months, almost without intermission, Mediterranean conditions prevailed. June passed and, incredibly, the whole of July before their secret was discovered. It was not until early August that bird-watchers from farther afield came to investigate rumours of brilliantly-plumaged birds seen in this locality. They had the shock of their lives. The birds were identified without difficulty, and the bird-watchers turned their attentions to the local sand pit. There, at opposite ends of the pit, they discovered two holes into which bee-eaters were disappearing with purposeful intent. In one hole, it seemed, incubation was still in progress, but the frequency of visits to the other hole clearly indicated that it held young. Bee-eaters were successfully nesting in Britain—for the first time.

So far all was well, but the news was bound to spread, and once the secret was out the birds were quite likely to be subjected to an overwhelming amount of publicity from perfectly well-meaning bird-watchers, photographers and journalists who might easily bring their nesting activities to a premature and disastrous end. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds was, therefore, immediately informed, and prompt action was taken. The goodwill and helpful co-operation of the owner of the sand pit was speedily secured. Volunteer guards and watchers moved in to take up strategic positions near the pit. Operation Bee-Eater was under way—and only just in time, for news leaked out in local newspapers and in the national Press and, though the actual locality was not immediately disclosed, sufficient was said for those who knew their Sussex geography to draw their own conclusions—and the hunt was on.



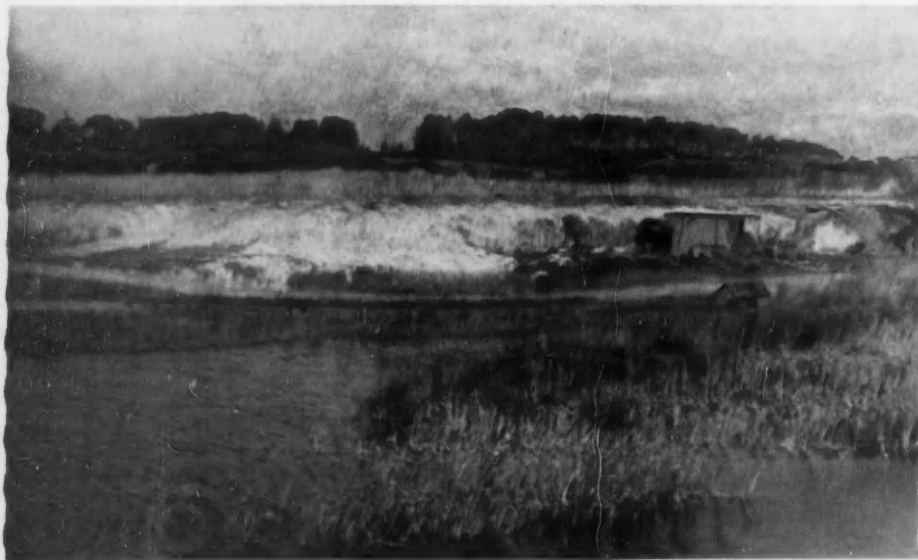
1.—WHERE ORNITHOLOGICAL HISTORY WAS MADE. One of the two nesting-holes in a Sussex sand pit in which last summer young bee-eaters were fledged for the first time in this country

At first, when the visitors were comparatively few, they were able to view the birds at fairly close quarters from a vantage-point within the sand pit, but as the numbers swelled and the scene became more and more reminiscent of Whipsnade on a Bank Holiday, it became necessary to limit the numbers at the entrance gate, and to insist that observers should retire and sit on a grassy bank fifty yards from the perimeter of the sand pit, from which vantage-point excellent views of the birds could be obtained, both when they were hawking for insects and also when they were perching on observation posts or telephone wires.

Meanwhile, detailed observations of the birds' activities by R.S.P.B. official watchers were being made from a somewhat closer viewpoint, and a great deal of information collected on the feeding rate, the type of food delivered to the young and the various stages by which the young reached the free-flying stage.

As one who was privileged to have a very small share in the recording activities, I retain the most vivid and pleasurable memories of the time I spent watching these delightful birds in their nesting quarters. Immensely long in the wing, with a swooping, swallow-like flight, they appeared to be much larger in flight than when at rest. This impression was strengthened by the length of their tails, from which projected two needle-like feathers, clearly visible as the birds flew past. But it was when they were sitting on their look-out posts that the true size of these slim, elegant, thrush-sized birds, with brilliant metallic green breasts, clear yellow throats and handsome bronze chevrons on their backs, became apparent. Their long, down-curving bills were very distinctive, and it was fascinating to watch them in use.

A bee-eater would, from its look-out post, detect an insect on the wing a great distance away—often a hundred yards or more. Instantly it would set off in pursuit. Flying low, almost skimming the grass tops, with tremendous speed and purpose, it would suddenly sweep in a magnificent upward curve, and, with a clearly audible snap of the bill, secure its prey. Then, if a wasp or a bee were caught, one could witness a most curious performance. The bee-eater would fly along in a leisurely fashion, tossing the insect



2.—GENERAL VIEW OF THE NORTH SIDE OF THE SAND PIT WHERE THE NESTING-HOLE ILLUSTRATED IN FIG. 1 WAS SITUATED



3.—SAND-MARTINS' NESTING-HOLES IN THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE PIT. The other pair of bee-eaters that bred successfully nested in a hole in the middle of the sand-martin colony

in the air and catching it again with complete nonchalance, as though to demonstrate its mastery of the situation. In actual fact the bird was probably "de-stinging" its victim and arranging it comfortably in its bill before delivering it to the young. Dragonflies of all sizes were constantly being caught, and these, too, required considerable adjustment in the bill before being suitable for delivery. Butterflies of many kinds were also taken, though cabbage whites, regrettably, were disdained. Flying beetles were also eagerly sought after, and, at first sight, pellets of indigestible matter disgorged by the parents and collected from under their observation-posts seemed to be principally composed of beetle shards. Bumble bees were often taken, and, presumably a certain number of honey bees, though they appeared very scarce in the locality, the nearest hives being two miles away—which was perhaps fortunate for their owners. The great diversity of insects caught by these birds often made one wonder whether the bee-eater—like the oyster-catcher—was not the victim of an ornithological misnomer. For the apiarist the word "bee-eater" certainly has an ominous ring. Little wonder that, shortly after news of the bee-eaters' nesting activities appeared in the Press, editors were receiving indignant letters from bee-keepers on the subject, the burden of which was: "Are these detestable birds actually being protected? They ought to be shot before they multiply and spread elsewhere." The possibility of bee-eaters' multiplying and spreading in Britain so as to become a menace to bee-keepers is, of course, fantastically remote.

Probably the most interesting period for the observers at the pit was when the young bee-eaters were appearing at the entrance-hole and were being persuaded, one by one, and usually at daily intervals, to venture on their first flight. While awaiting their parents, whose arrival in the sand pit was always heralded by a clear, far-carrying, musical "querr-up . . . querr-up," they kept up an incessant, querulous chatter of their own. For several days after the young had left the nesting tunnel they were escorted back there

in the evening by the adults, who saw them safely to bed before themselves retiring to roost in a belt of trees half a mile away. Ten days after the first nest had produced its complement of four young bee-eaters, the young began to



4.—BEE-EATER ON A LOOK-OUT POST. This photograph was taken with a telephoto lens from the place of observation to which bird-watchers were admitted, at a range of 50 yards

leave the second nest. It was now early September, and the R.S.P.B. watchers finally had the satisfaction of seeing thirteen bee-eaters perched on the telephone wires behind the pit—three pairs of adults and seven fully-hatched young.

Why three pairs of adults and only two nests? One pair had been unsuccessful through no fault of their own. Before it was known that bee-eaters were using the sand pit a section of the cliff face was partially removed by a mechanical excavator, and a nesting tunnel accidentally destroyed. Once the owner of the pit was informed that bee-eaters were nesting there, he co-operated most helpfully with the R.S.P.B., reducing sand-lifting operations to a minimum and parking his vehicles elsewhere when not in use. It was in a very large measure due to his helpfulness that Operation Bee-Eater was carried through to a successful conclusion.

The factors that contributed to this notable achievement, which might well be taken as a model for future operations of this kind, may be summarised as follows: (1) Immediate notification of the R.S.P.B. by those who made the initial discovery. (2) Prompt action by the R.S.P.B. in securing the interest and goodwill of the owner of the site, and in organising the services of voluntary wardens, recruited both locally and from far afield. (3) Restraint and common sense of the general public, who, not wishing to miss the opportunity of seeing rare birds, readily agreed that the restrictions imposed on their observations were in the best interests of the birds themselves.

The question now is: "Will the bee-eaters return next year?" Who knows? A more pertinent question from their point of view is: "Will this country provide another Mediterranean summer for them in 1956, with the perfect conditions for successful breeding that prevailed this year?" The probability is that, both from a bird-watcher's and a bee-eater's viewpoint, this was the chance of a lifetime.

How gratifying, then, for all concerned, that matters were brought to such a very successful conclusion!

SILVER TUMBLERS AND TRAVELLING SETS

By G. BERNARD HUGHES



1.—SILVER TUMBLER ENGRAVED WITH A COAT-OF-ARMS. London, 1681. (Middle)
2.—ENGRAVED SILVER TUMBLER STRUCK WITH THE LONDON HALL-MARK FOR 1685. (Right) 3.—TUMBLER ENGRAVED WITH THE ARMS OF GROSVENOR AND INSCRIBED: "THE GIFT OF THE RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD GROSVENOR TO THE CITY OF CHESTER, 1766." London, 1765

HENRY VIII was an enthusiastic dabbler in the art of pharmacy and compounded grisly potions such as dragon's blood mixed with the powdered skulls of Irishmen. But he was persistent in his advocacy of silver drinking-vessels. These, he declared, ensured protection from the ills then associated with drinking from vessels of base metal. Beakers of silver had long been inventoried and "nests of small drinking bowls" in white silver or gilt were carried on journeys. These were the predecessors of the tumbler, with its characteristic rounded and weighted base.

William Harrison, in his *Description of England* (1587), recorded that drinking-vessels were seldom set upon the table in the 16th century, "but each one, as necessity urgeth, calleth for a cup of such drink as him listeth to have, so that, when he has tasted of it, he delivereth the cup again to some one of the standers by." These silver cups were inventoried either as "bowles for wine" or as "quaffing cups," intended to be drained at a single draught, which accounted for their small size. Their diameter exceeded their depth, which varied from 1½ inches to 3 inches. As early as 1533 Sir Thomas More distinguished between

vessels for sipping and for quaffing. Dekker in 1607 declared, "I quaffe full bowles of hot wine," referring to the highly spiced liquor of the period.

The silver tumbler, raised from a single disc of plate, must be differentiated from the much deeper beaker in which the body was joined vertically with an invisible seam and the base inserted. The beaker was encircled with strengthening moulding to lift its base—always inclined to bulge even with careful usage—slightly above the table top, and so to secure stability. As regards the tumbler's stability, the rounded base was proportionately thicker than its vertical or slightly outward sloping sides, so that even if the vessel rocked from side to side or were placed on an uneven surface, it would retain its balance like an acrobat—hence its name.

To carry a pair of tumblers, one nesting within the other, enclosed in a small gilt-enriched leather case became a modish conceit among 17th-century nobility and gentry, who were then acquiring a taste for coach travel, with its nightly discomfort of boarding and lodging in taverns or inns. The few newly-established coaching inns provided wealthy

patrons with a side-table of silver plate. In the summer of 1664 Pepys confided to his *Diary*: "Thence home, taking two silver tumblers which I have bought." The magazine *Apollo* advertised in 1704 the loss of "a gold tumbler of £100 value."

Silver tumblers, now assiduously collected and catalogued as tumbler cups, remained an essential part of travelling equipment until towards the close of the 18th century, when drinking-vessels of lead-glazed cream-coloured earthenware had been introduced in every coaching-house and tavern.

The smooth outer surface of a tumbler was usually engraved for identification. There might be a coat-of-arms, a crest or a cypher, or the owner's name and a date might be inscribed in a narrow band immediately below the rim. In some instances an engraved design ornamented the base of a tumbler, suggesting that when empty the vessel was placed rim downward.

The earliest tumbler so far noted was formerly in the Riley Smith collection. This bears the London hall-mark for 1625, measures 2½ inches in diameter and weighs 1 oz. 17 dwt. The body is engraved with the following inscription: "Ye guilt of Humphrey Whistler gent somtymes Bailiffe of ye Cittie of Oxon to ye Maior of ye same Citte for ye use of ye Master and Wardens of ye Company of Taylers there 1637." The diameters of eleven silver tumblers in the Riley Smith collection varied from 2½ inches to 3¼ inches.

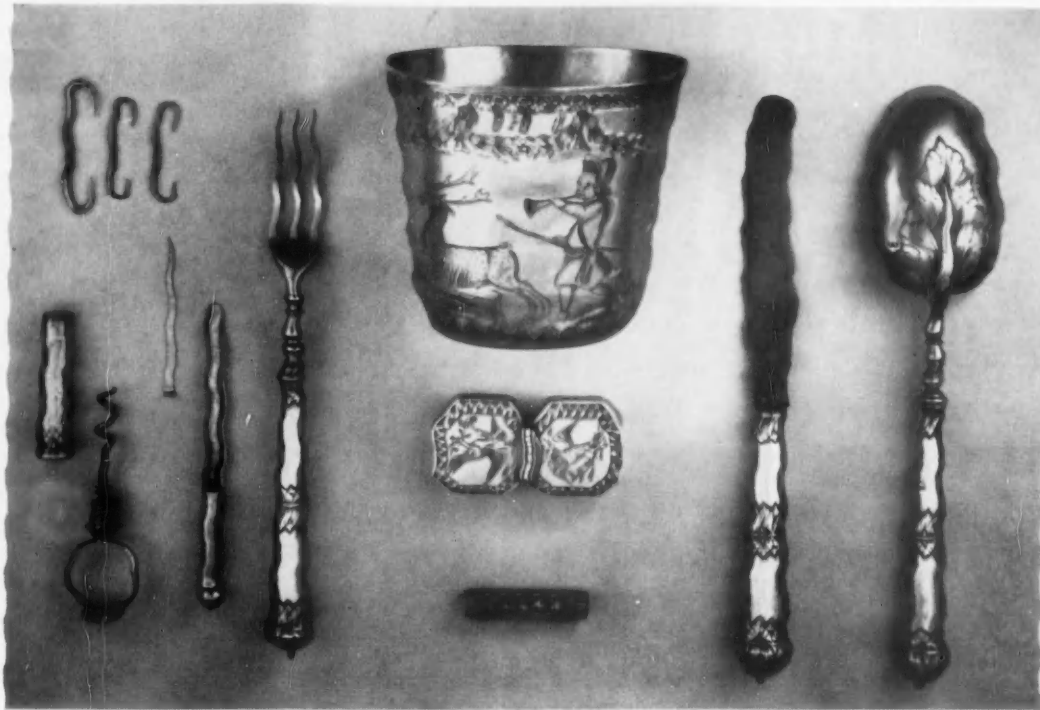
The Noble collection of 21 silver tumblers, dating between 1671 and 1740, included a set of four struck with the London hall-mark of 1707, and two pairs hall-marked 1671 and 1725. Their height ranged from 1½ inches to 3 inches, and weights from 2 oz. 2 dwt. for each of the set of four to 7 oz. 5 dwt. for a Charles II pair of 1671. Twelve were plain, and decoration on the remainder extended from coats-of-arms in elaborate cartouches to an example merely pricked with initials. One made at York in 1671 was worked in repoussé and chased with large flowers and foliage and two cartouches. The Duke of Hamilton possessed a set of three tumblers with matted grounds and plain narrow bands encircling their lips. These were struck with the London hall-marks for 1677 and 1683.

It is noticeable that from Charles II's reign, when a tumbler measuring 2½ inches in height weighed 1 oz. 19 dwt., the weight of these vessels tended to increase progressively: an example of the same height struck with the 1713 hall-mark weighs 4 oz., and a pair of tumblers assayed for Matthew Boulton on the occasion of the opening of the Birmingham Assay Office in August, 1773, weighed 8 oz. 16 dwt. From the 1790s the production of silver tumblers decreased, and greater numbers were made in Sheffield plate.

Tumblers made for practical use were always made severely smooth inside. Some



4.—A SILVER-GILT TRAVELLING SET, THE TUMBLER OF WHICH IS INSCRIBED: "A BARTLEMEW FAIRING SENT BY HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ORMOND TO FRIDASWEED LADY STEPHENS 1686"



5.—SILVER TRAVELLING SET MADE BY CHARLES OVERING IN 1701. It includes an oval tumbler, engraved with stag and boar hunts, a knife, fork and spoon with detachable handles, spice-box, nutmeg-grater, marrow-scoop, corkscrew and toothpick

mid-19th-century tumblers, made only for decoration, were raised in relief, such as a pair made in 1841 "in repoussé" and chased with strap-work and foliage and engraved with Latin inscriptions, the royal arms of Scotland, crests and the date 1567.

Silver tumblers were included in the pocket travelling sets fashionable from the 1680s until early Georgian days and carried by men and women alike. Such a tumbler was usually enclosed in a shagreen case, silver-mounted and velvet-lined, together with knife, fork, spoon, spice-box, nutmeg-grater, corkscrew, marrow-scoop and toothpick, all in silver. The tumblers were usually engraved with picturesque all-over sporting scenes or with patterns of closely scrolled flowers and foliage.

A silver-gilt set (Fig. 4) formerly in the

collection of Viscount Monck was described in Christie's catalogue as "comprising an oval beaker, engraved with a piping figure, and birds amid scrolling foliage and, round the rim, with the inscription 'A Bartlemew Fairing sent by His Grace the Duke of Ormond to Fridasweed Lady Stephens 1686,' a small double spice-box, engraved with winged caryatid figures blowing trumpets, and a rat-tailed spoon, four pronged fork and steel knife with detachable handles engraved with foliage, circa 1685, in shagreen case." This set is struck with the maker's mark only, FS with a small s below and a coronet above, showing it to have been made to commission and not offered for sale on the open market.

Bartholomew Fair had long been established for trading purposes during two weeks of

August, and it was patronised by Royalty and the nobility. The booths were weatherproof erections of timber framework walled and roofed with planks. Leading silversmiths rented booths and specialised in the sale of gift ware made for the occasion. Pepys went often and once he noted Lady Castlemaine among the visitors.

The travelling set made by Charles Overing in 1701 (Fig. 5) illustrates the numerous accessories carried by the epicure of the period to make his food palatable, as much of it was cured or otherwise preserved. His delight in flavouring it with pungent spices and the like is recalled by the inclusion of a tiny spice-box. Such a box was hexagonal and opened into two sections revealing a pair of engraved lids covering tiny spice receptacles. Lids and boxes all hinge on a single pin. The cylindrical nutmeg-grater enabled him to powder his own nutmeg over the ill-served foods in a public dining-room. Its chief purpose, however, was to add zest to wine and other drinks. It is surprising to find in this set a miniature corkscrew, then known as a worm or bottle screw, protected by a sheath: this is probably the earliest authenticated example. The flat plate on the thumb-ring enabled it to be used as a tobacco-stopper.

The long-bladed scoop was used for extracting marrow from cooked bones, and was a common table accessory from the late 17th century until Victorian days. These, together with a rat-tailed spoon, three-pronged fork and sherd-bladed knife, all with detachable silver handles engraved with bands of foliage, a small knife with a plain handle, and a toothpick comprise the set. But the major item of the set is the oval tumbler engraved with stag and boar hunts, the figures and hounds separated by palm trees, and with festoons and flowers above. This is protected by a shagreen case, the lid lining of which is fitted to receive such items as the knife blades, while the remainder fit comfortably inside the tumbler.

Illustration: 3, Messrs. Christie, Manson and Woods.

ARMY HUNTER TRIALS IN GERMANY

IT has been the custom in recent years for the Army Championship Hunter Trials to be held in Germany, and this year they took place on October 21 and 22 at Dorfmark in the north-east sector of the British Zone.

Despite the increased cost of keeping a horse, there are still a large number of officers, and other ranks too, who own horses in the British Army of the Rhine. The popularity of riding in the Army was fully displayed by the number of entries, which totalled two hundred, of whom all but eighteen came from British officers and Regiments, the balance being German-owned horses, with one entry from the Danish Army. Thirty Regiments or Headquarters were represented in the entries.

The site chosen for the course was not unlike Tweesledown, Aldershot. It was, in fact, a portion of the training area normally used for firing artillery guns and tanks, and spectators could stand on a hill with the course below them and a vista of fir and pine trees in the distance. On such a piece of ground it was inevitable that nearly every obstacle had to be artificially constructed. Certainly no one could complain

that he had never encountered any of the obstacles he was asked to jump. These included post-and-rails, fixed rails, a gate, logs, a wall, brush fences, stiles, parallel bars and a twelve-foot water jump with a small rail in front of it, which probably afforded the spectators more amusement than the competitors. The going,

which was all grass, remained excellent despite rain on the second morning and it was hard to realise on the Saturday evening that close on five hundred horses had galloped over the course on the two days.

There were two courses, 1½ miles for novices and two miles for the open course, for which half the fences were raised and five additional fences added. That the course was not easy was shown by the fact that there were only four clear rounds over the novices' course and none over the open course. On the other hand, there were few bad falls and only two competitors were injured, both at the first fence. Competitors rode in flights of three whether competing individually or as a team, and where fences had a knockable rail each rider had to jump a separate bay.

The novices' individual event was won by Mr. A. R. Douglas-Nugent on Reigning Queen, and the open and Army individual event was won by Captain C. A. Coldrey on Leopard. The open unit teams event went to the 3rd Hussars, whose team comprised Major R. J. G. Dallas on Deception, Captain K. F. Brown on Care-free and Mr. J. P. Sherwin on Max. N.E.H.



A TEAM FROM THE 4th/7th DRAGOON GUARDS COMPETING IN THE ARMY CHAMPIONSHIP HUNTER TRIALS HELD RECENTLY IN GERMANY

NO COMMENT

By BERNARD DARWIN

"DO you remember," a friend asked me at Worpleston the other day, "when so-and-so (naming a great lady golfer and an admirable partner) putted you down the slope on the sixth green and into the bunker beyond?" Then after a moment she added, "I can see your face now when she did it." That had been a long time ago, but I owned that I did remember the circumstance perfectly well, and I had no doubt at all that I had made a very ugly face indeed. It was a shameful admission. If I could not force myself to smile seraphically, at least no wrinkle should have appeared on my brow; but truth is great and I am sure I must have looked for the moment disgracefully and unchivalrously cross.

Putting into a bunker is one of those incidents at once so infuriating and so flabbergasting that it is best received, if possible, with a burst of forced and hollow merriment. I recall a certain foursome—not a mixed one this time—in which A and B had played about five more on to the green against C and D and B suggested giving up the hole. "What?" exclaimed A truculently. "Give up the hole? Why, D might putt into the bunker." Thereupon poor D, a man of a limited sense of humour and easily flustered, did putt into the bunker some ten yards beyond the hole. I hasten to add for the honour of human nature that A and B at once picked up their own ball and surrendered the hole, protesting that they had never really meant it. Of course, there is one bunker into which all the best people have putted at least once, namely, the Road bunker that eats its way into the edge of the 17th green at St. Andrews. Anybody who has played often on the Old Course and declares he has never putted into the bunker (the curve is most deceitful) is like the young man who told W.G. he had never made a duck, and is said to have received the answer: "Then you go in last. You can't have played much cricket." I saw Harold Hilton do it in an Amateur Championship and still recall the tone in which a large, solemn Scotsman in the crowd exclaimed "Good God!" Hilton heard it too, and it made him see the humour of it. He got well out of the bunker and halved the hole.

No doubt putting into a bunker is funny if you can make yourself think so, but it is clearly for the victim himself to laugh first rather than for the other side. The situation is a delicate one and the best rule for the enemy is to keep silence. If in the instance with which I began this article someone had said "Bad luck," then an ugly face might have been justified. It is

indeed a grave question whether anyone should ever make use of those words. A partner, perhaps, but even so very seldom, for I have known golfers whose "Bad luck, partner" was a parrot cry inducing in time the most murderous feelings. In the case of an opponent the words are nearly always hypocritical; he cannot reasonably be expected to feel sorry and had better not pretend to be, or at any rate not too often. Now and again he must, for in the wise words of the Badminton book, "a certain show of this fictitious sorrow is imperatively demanded by all the kindly rules of etiquette."

I met a golfer the other day who was annoyed with himself for allowing himself to become annoyed with one of his adversaries. She had, with the best intentions in the world, greeted too many of his strokes with "Bad luck" or "Good shot." To complain of the second phrase is, perhaps, a little hypercritical. Does it seem to imply, perhaps, that the stroke is for that particular player surprisingly good, and so is it a little wounding to the vanity? I remember well the very first time I ever saw Horace Hutchinson. It was at the Paradise hole at Eastbourne; I was a small schoolboy and Horace's partner, whom I knew, pointed me out to him as, I suppose, a more or less promising young golfer. Horace looked at my approach and said, "Good shot" in a kind and Olympian manner. I was gratified by his notice and yet a little sad, because it had not really been a very good shot, and I did not like the great man to think I could not make a better one than that. Doubtless we are, most of us, but vain creatures in our hearts, and it is best to treat us with golden silence.

Another mild story comes back to me which shows how hard it can be for the opponent to say the right thing. I was playing with an old friend, now dead, who was gently bemoaning his golf in general and in particular the fact that he had lost a certain hole at which I had to give him one of his few strokes. I pointed out that at that hole I had very luckily holed an outrageously long putt for a three. "Yes," he replied, "but if I had first put my third dead, as I ought to have done, you would not have holed your putt for three." That was carrying the war into the enemy's country. It seemed at the moment rather an ungrateful remark, for I really had meant well, and yet I could not deny that what he said was in all human probability true, and it is much easier to hole a long putt when the other fellow is not lying dead.

We may console ourselves if we like by

denying this patent weakness in our common nature. Thus I, in playing the odd, trundle the ball feebly into the cross bunker that guards the green and call down the wrath of heaven on my incompetence. Thereupon you, playing the like, full of cheerfulness and confidence, lay your ball stone dead. Instantly I recover my equanimity, saying, "Ah, well, I couldn't have done any good against a three anyway." Yet, with all respect to you, you might not have laid your ball dead. You might even not have put it on the green at all, if you had seen mine reposing there. I remember once asking the late Edward Blackwell what sort of a player was a certain partner of his. He answered that he was quite a good player, unless the opponent's ball was on the green first. A little crushing, perhaps, but how dreadfully true of many of us! Moreover, as Ted Blackwell's partner in a foursome was much more likely to play the like than the odd, that very human weakness must have been rather a destructive one.

There are some consolations which we may justifiably administer to ourselves, which are yet of little comfort to our partners. Suppose, for instance, we open the match with a fine, long hook and the ball finds a horrid place in the heather. We may feel that this is really a hopeful sign; that a big bold hit shows that we are coming well through; that it is a thousand times more promising than a short, feeble slice which just manages to stop on the fairway; that the hook will soon disappear and the length and freedom remain. All these things may be perfectly true and we may derive much private cheer from them, but they will not do anything to console our partner as he backs with his niblick in that heathery nest. He wants deeds from us, not words, and "Sorry, partner" is as far as we had better go, if even that far.

The public character, harassed by ubiquitous reporters who pursue him with questions, takes refuge at last in the answer, "No comment." It is an equally good rule for private golfers, if only we can follow it. That is for many of us an almost impossible thing to do. A very famous judge who had been in his day great advocate once said to a young barrister, "I expect I did many improper things when I was at the bar; in fact I know I did." There are few golfers who do not look back with sorrow on some of the things they have said in the course of a game, when they would have done so much better to keep silence. Mine haunt me dreadfully, and there were doubtless so many more that ought to.

REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS

By W. J. WESTON

IT was a valiant effort, and it might well have succeeded. Indeed, it did achieve a transitory success in the County Court; but all the Lords Justices in the Appeal Court, strict in their arrest of reasoning that is no more than plausible, were against it. No wonder landlords made the effort. For, ever since restriction began during the dark days of the first World War, our legislators have handed to them a very poor deal. The particular landlords, the Grey Coat Hospital Governors, had tried to convince the Court that money spent upon their flats had effected repairs that were improvements, too. The great amount spent upon repairs unquestionably entitled the Governors to raise the rents of these flats in accordance with the provisions of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954; and if, as the Governors stoutly contended, these same repairs must be deemed improvements, they could invoke the Rent Act, 1920. And this Act entitled a landlord to raise rents by 8 per cent. of the capital sum spent "on the improvement or structural alteration of a dwelling-house (not including expenditure on decoration or repairs)."

The Act gives us this guide to a decision about what are no more than repairs: "the expression 'repairs' means any repairs required for the purpose of keeping premises in good and tenantable repair." "What a very queer guide

is this!" you perhaps comment. "To tell me that repairs are repairs gives me about as much guidance as Lucetta's reason,

"I think him so because I think him so."

However, there it is: repairs are what the house, fallen from grace by service and long process of time, needs to make it again acceptable to the sanitary inspector. When you repair a thing worn and wasted, you restore decayed parts; and it is still only repair though you replace the whole damaged structure. In *Wates v. Rowland* (C.A., 1952) the wooden floor of a house had become unsafe owing to the seeping up of water, and the landlord replaced the wooden floor by a tiled floor. This was decidedly an improvement in the ordinary sense of the word; but the Court said it remained a repair so far as the Rent Acts are concerned.

Unless you can say: "Here is more than a replacing of what was perished; here is a new thing, fulfilling indeed the function of the old thing, but also adding a new comfort or convenience to the dwelling-house," you cannot maintain that the repair is an improvement. "Structural alteration" is the alternative to "improvement." After the improvement the house has something it lacked before, pipes, perhaps, giving a water supply inside the house as a substitute for a defective pump outside. "It is," directs the excellent Mrs. Glasse in one

of her recipes, "a great improvement to add the juice of two Seville oranges."

Well, after a service of 60 years, the drainage system in the Governors' flats had grown obsolete and it called for frequent repairs. The question was whether to effect repairs piece by piece or to scrap the obsolete system wholly and to install a modern system. The Governors decided that to install the modern system would be better for the tenants and, though the cost was great, would in the long run be cheaper for themselves. The cost was about £5,200, so that the 8 per cent. increase would have brought in £416 a year. Constant trouble, too, had been arising from the wearing out of the water-supply pipes, and a wholly new and up-to-date means of supply was put in. This also cost a good deal, round about £4,600.

"But," said Lord Justice Denning, "if all that was done was the replacement of something already existing, albeit replacement by its modern equivalent, that came under the category of 'repairs' and not 'improvement.' It seems to me that the drainage system in these flats is the same now as that which existed before. All that has happened is the replacement of the older system by its modern equivalent. So also with the cold water system." (*Grey Coat Hospital Governors v. Campbell*, C.A. 1955.) Kicks are the landlord's lot to-day.

CORRESPONDENCE

ARE SUBSIDIES OVERDONE?

SIR.—Referring to your editorial note on farm subsidies (September 29) and to Mr. Seligman's letter in your issue of October 13, no doubt there is much uninformed criticism of these subsidies, but there is a widespread feeling that the taxpayers and ratepayers are being unduly mulcted for the benefit of many who receive subsidies and can well afford to do without them. This applies also, at the moment, to people who live in subsidised houses, but who could perfectly well pay the economic rent.

Similarly there are farmers who could certainly make a profit without subsidies. In this district those who own hill farms and who now graze cattle on them as well as sheep would, I feel sure, in most years make a good profit with much lower subsidies and often with none at all. Many of them have very little arable land and grow crops only for winter feeding.

trying to do? The tree is stayed with wire guy-ropes near its base. A friend who knows central Somerset commented that tall, thin trees, kept bare except for a small tuft of foliage at the top (this suggests the so-called Moscow system of pruning conifers in the forest), are not uncommon in cottage gardens in the Langport-Long Sutton district, but I have noticed none when passing through. I do not think there was any hint that growers wanted the trees to bend over. Presumably a fashion for these oddities (which would require much less space and would not shade or rob a garden as a weeping ash would) might stimulate competitive feelings; one may recall giant gooseberries, largest marrows and tallest hollyhocks.—D. J. LAMBOROUGH, Wiltshire.

FACE TO FACE WITH TURNER

SIR.—Readers of Mr. Adrian Bury's interesting article *Face to Face with Turner* (October 13) may be interested

North Devon, erected (it is said in 1625) by John Giffard, who would then have been 23. He is represented by the beardless figure kneeling on the right.

It was erected to the memory of his grandfather John who died in 1622. He is represented by the recumbent effigy, and the arms surmounting the monument are those of himself and his wife, Honora Erle, of Charborough, in Dorset. By an ingenious allusion to 2 Kings xiii John Giffard included also his own father, Arthur, who had died in 1616, represented by the figure kneeling on the left, and also his grandfather's father, John (d. 1585) and his grandfather's grandfather, Sir Roger (d. 1547), represented by the medallions on the right and left respectively, both of which are intended to be portraits. The marriage alliances of each generation are recorded in the inscription and in the armorials above each effigy.

From 1872 until recently the monument has been obscured by an organ, and this is probably the first photograph to be taken of it. Is it unique in including five generations in one monument?—J. H. B. ANDREWS (Rev.), Chittlehampton Vicarage, North Devon.

THE PLEASURES OF WINE

From Sir Geoffrey Knox

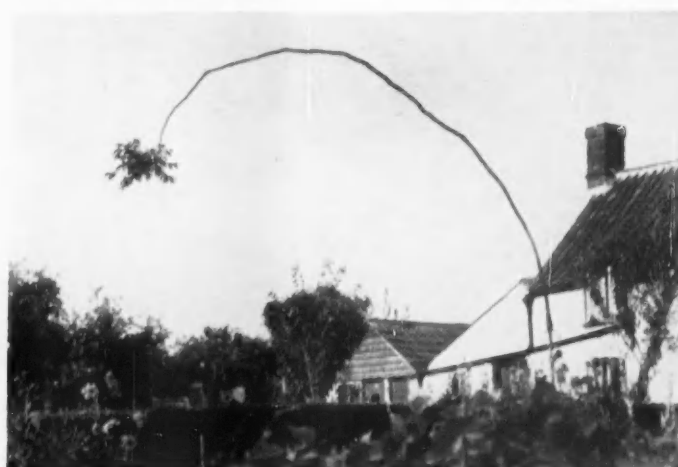
SIR.—Reading with enjoyment Sir Neville Pearson's *Wine in its own Country* (September 8), I was surprised

to see *pourriture noble* treated as if it were a mould of the wine. In the Sauterne country, where the term probably originated, it is applied to the first approach of decay in the grape itself, immediately before the early frosts when the fruit has attained its greatest sweetness. This is the short-lived moment of picking for those natural sweet wines headed by the majestic Château Yquem. Its German rival from the Rhine, the Johannisberg, is similarly a late-picked wine.

The master wine of the Jura is the yellow Château Châlon; it has a curious resemblance in taste to the wine of Shiraz and also an affinity with those of southern Spain, which is not surprising seeing that Spain occupied the Franche-Comté before 1600 and no doubt introduced Spanish stock and Spanish methods to the local vineyards. I am not sure whether the Château Châlon is a late-picked wine or one pressed from the less noble decay of the raisin, but the strangest yellow wines of the Franche-Comté are the so-called *vins de paille* made from raisins dried in straw. These are decidedly not to everybody's liking.

Sherry, on the other hand, is surely not a late-picked natural sweet wine; the fact alone that the wine is not made at the vineyards would seem to exclude this, and the sherries that I have drunk in Spain were almost universally dry. Some old sherries, indeed, I have found as dry as the flinty wines of the Palatinate.

It is a matter of individual taste whether or not one likes natural sweet wines such as the great Sauternes, but, at least, however sweet, they have the saving grace which they owe to their natural origin of not being sticky. People, however, often forget that



AN ASH TREE GROWING IN A SOMERSET GARDEN

See letter: *Ash for the Small Garden?*

What annoys the public is that, in spite of the subsidies which they pay, the price of meat continues to rise. The butchers blame the farmers, rightly or wrongly, and go so far as to say that they alone, apart from hotel keepers, can order big joints of meat.

One thing I know from experience. Whereas formerly the owner of a hill farm was keen to get a good rent for the grouse-shooting, now he does not care twopence about it, and will do little or nothing to help a shooting tenant, if he has one. The grouse-shooting in this district has been largely ruined by indiscriminate burning and I see no chance of recovery. Of course, the production of more food is of the first importance, but the public should benefit and not the farmer alone.

Moreover, many business people feel that it is unfair that only the agriculturalist and sheep farmer should be guaranteed against loss. The only excuse for this is the public interest, and what benefit does the public get? The same apparently as from the nationalisation of the mines and railways: dearer meat, coal, gas and travel!

There may be prejudice with regard to subsidies, but all the people are not fooled all the time.—L. G. W. WILKINSON, Elmwood, Moffat, Dumfriesshire.

ASH FOR THE SMALL GARDEN?

SIR.—The enclosed photograph of an ash tree in a cottage garden was taken in central Somerset not far from Axbridge. The sight of the tree made me wonder what was likely to happen: will a leading shoot succeed in developing and turn up—as it appears to be

to know that the best and most authentic portrait of Turner is in the Sheffield City art galleries collection. It is a camera-lucida drawing of Turner's head, life size, by Cornelius Varley, of which I enclose a photograph.

The camera-lucida is a combination of telescope and prism which enables the image of the sitter to be seen on the drawing-board, and Varley used his "graphic telescope" for this purpose. The graphic telescope, a variation of the camera-lucida designed by Varley, is now in the possession of the Science Museum, South Kensington.

As Turner specifically refused to sit for a portrait, most of the known studies, including the majority of those illustrated in Mr. Bury's article, were taken surreptitiously. It is entirely impossible to make a surreptitious portrait with a camera-lucida, for the subject has to sit very still. It is certain that Turner for some reason broke his rule and sat to Varley for this magnificent drawing. The drawing was found, by a descendant of Varley, in a folio of camera-lucida studies of Varley's friends, and Sheffield City art galleries also acquired a superb drawing of Cotman from this folio.

All the known likenesses of Turner show him youthful or aged, but Varley shows Turner's magnificent likeness in his prime, though unfortunately the drawing is undated.—RICHARD SEDDON, Director, Graves Art Gallery, Sheffield, 1.

FIVE GENERATIONS IN ONE MONUMENT

SIR.—I enclose a photograph of a monument in Chittlehampton Church,



PENCIL DRAWING OF J. M. W. TURNER BY CORNELIUS VARLEY

See letter: *Face to Face with Turner*



A MONUMENT AT CHITTLEHAMPTON CHURCH, DEVON, COMMEMORATING FIVE GENERATIONS OF THE GIFFARD FAMILY. ABOUT 1625

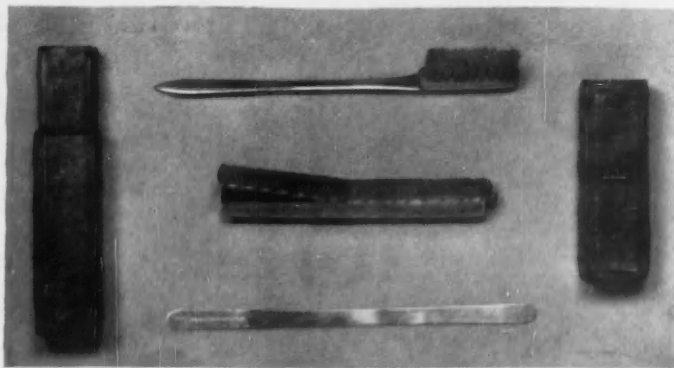
See letter: *Five Generations in one Monument*

these are essentially dessert wines and should be drunk as such, but the unorthodox marriage of a fresh truffe *sous la cendre* and a glass of old Yquem can be one of the truly great delights. —GEOFFREY KNOX, *Scarborough, Togo, B.W.I.*

[Sir Neville Pearson writes: Sir Geoffrey Knox makes a very interesting point about *pourriture noble*. Few of the countless thousands who enjoy wine have much idea about the fine points of its making or about the number and power of the adversaries with which a wine-maker has to contend. The adversaries sometimes change sides, as with the *pourriture noble* or *Botrytis cinerea*. Starting on the outside of the grape with the friendly yeasts which will eventually turn the sugar into alcohol, it also attacks the inside of the grape, from which it extracts a large amount of moisture, leaving the grape shrivelled but infinitely sweeter. If this attack goes on uninterrupted the whole grape will break down into rotten dust, but if the process is arrested by picking the grape at exactly the right time and pressing it the richness of the wine is enormously increased. Some wines if exposed to the air will grow a flower or mould on their surface caused by the *Mycoderma vini*. This also was hiding in the bloom. The flower or mould resulting from its activities gives to sherry and to the wine of the Juras its particular quality. But beware of its brother the *Mycoderma aceti*—the one that turns wine into vinegar. That, too, given the right conditions, is eager to join in the fight and if it wins the wine is finished. Poor wine-maker, but how interesting it makes the chemistry and the bacteriology of wine!—ED.]

GRENOBLE WALNUT

SIR,—I do not think that anyone who has joined in your correspondence on Grenoble walnut has sufficiently stressed the point that figured wood may be an hereditary characteristic. In Sweden, where the practical application of genetics to tree breeding has reached an advanced stage, characteristics such as rate of growth, tree form and figure are considered hereditary. Two types of figured birch, known as brown curly birch and flamy birch, are being bred from selected trees. It is, however, difficult to be certain that a standing tree is figured, and many characters of bark and form are used to assist in identification. It is also known that figured trees may be more numerous in certain localities. Therefore the habitat may be important. If one applies these theories to the cultivation of walnut in the South of France, it is quite possible that the local strain may carry a tendency to develop figured wood, under certain conditions



A SILVER TOOTHBRUSH SET MADE BY JOSEPH TAYLOR, OF BIRMINGHAM, IN 1797

See letter: Silver Toothbrush Sets

of soil, climate and silvicultural treatment.

Undoubtedly the cabinet-makers would prefer clean forest-grown timber to coarse-grown hedgerow walnut. —R. M. LAWTON, *Forestry Dept., P.O. Box 340, Kuluw, N. Rhodesia.*

DRY-STONE WALLING TECHNIQUES

SIR,—Since two quite different techniques in dry-stone walling are illustrated by the accompanying photographs they may interest your readers.

The wall of Cotswold oolite under repair is made up of smallish flat stones arranged to present smooth outer faces sealing a loose core. At intervals larger flat stones are laid horizontally the whole width of the wall.

The granite "hedges" in St. Martin's, Isles of Scilly, are, on the contrary, only one stone thick, while the bonding stones, which show particularly well in the middle foreground, consist of massive orthostats sunk vertically in the ground. The lack of vegetation indicates that the enclosures are fairly new. Presumably it is the weight of the granite which makes such apparently poor construction hold together. —MARGARET JONES (Mrs.), 32, Forest-road, Moseley, Birmingham, 13.

HOLES ON A LAWN

SIR,—Judging from the correspondence in your issues of September 8 and October 6 and 13, the case against the grey squirrel as a depredator of crocus bulbs (but not of daffodil bulbs) seems to be proved, but an explanation is still needed for the behaviour of the two hedgehogs that added fifty unwanted holes at the 9th putting green at a Middlesex golf-course last May.

Here some of us have experienced much the same trouble on our lawns, usually during the early summer, and it has been found to be due to an

infestation of the cockchafer, the larvae of which live for two or three years underground and feed on the roots of grasses and plantains, and are an attractive form of food for badgers and hedgehogs, both of which are adept at extracting these fat two-inch-long grubs from their cavities beneath the turf.

The cockchafer beetles hatch and fly towards the end of May, but the larvae of later broods are still available, and excavations in search of them may go on intermittently throughout the summer and autumn months. On my own lawn, beneath one square yard of turf which I lifted carefully and replaced, I found four cockchafer larvae. It is not as easy as one might imagine to differentiate between the excavations made by badgers and those made by hedgehogs, notwithstanding the large difference in the size of the forepaws of each animal. —OLIVER HOOK, *Brackenridge, Brockenhurst, Hampshire.*

LATE CLOUDED YELLOW BUTTERFLY

SIR,—On October 28 my wife saw a yellow butterfly in our garden and, thinking that I would be interested, she went indoors for my net and, fortunately, was able to catch the butterfly. On my return home in the evening I found that she had taken a female clouded yellow in excellent condition.

I am puzzled to know how such a butterfly could have survived, seeing that there have already been some severe frosts. Perhaps it could be a late migrant, but I should very much value any opinion that your readers might have. No other clouded yellows have, so far as I know, been seen in this part of the world at all this year. —T. H. W. LUMLEY, *Uplands, Stoke Poges, Buckinghamshire.*

SILVER TOOTHBRUSH SETS

SIR,—I enclose a photograph of a silver toothbrush set fitted in its original red sheepskin-covered travelling pocket case. It comprises, besides a toothbrush, a bright-cut container with two compartments for tooth-powder, and a tongue-scraper. This set was made in 1797 by Joseph Taylor, of Birmingham. I possess others hall-marked 1794, 1795, 1796 and 1827: at the last-mentioned date a tongue-scraper was rarely included. As far as I know, only Joseph Taylor, of Birmingham, and William Pitts, of London, produced such toothbrush sets. I should be pleased to learn if any of your readers is aware of other firms which made these exquisite Georgian survivals. —J. MENZIES CAMPBELL, 70, Great George-street, Glasgow, W.2.

TOMATOES FROM CALIFORNIA

SIR,—Referring to my letter on Californian beef-steak tomatoes (October 27), I am having a considerable number of letters from readers asking where seeds are obtainable, or if I can supply any. Unfortunately, I am not in a position to help because, presumably as a result of our having to use a setting agent, nearly all the tomatoes which we grew were seedless. Our gardener had a few of the same plants in his own garden, and these set naturally without any setting agent and they had seeds, but the total crop was small in number and we are unable to spare any seeds. —EDWARD H. PINTO, *Oxhey Woods House, Northwood, Middlesex.*

THE MOMENT OF TRUTH

SIR,—I read with much interest the article on bull-fighting (October 6) by Miss Beamish, and what she decries as the bitter moment of truth is only too true: the "picking" of the bull is done much too savagely and for too long in most cases. As she says, this spoils a truly great art. But I should like to point to two salient factors concerning the *picador* that perhaps she has not considered.

In the first place, the amount of picking carried out and the damage to the bull is decided by the *matador* who is to fight him, and even more by the zealous crowd, who scream themselves hoarse at too much picking. The *matador* who turns the generally unpopular *picador* aside early on will receive applause for his premature bravery and so, with good class *matadors*, a bull will still be full of fight if he has been only lightly picked.

In the second place, it depends very much on whether one sees a good fight, or an indifferent spectacle, which can be quite nauseating. For my first fight, I went to one of the fifty smaller rings. Here I witnessed three

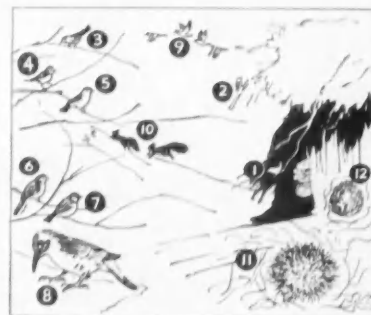


A DRY-STONE WALL IN THE COTSWOLDS BEING REPAIRED, AND (right) WALLED ENCLOSURES IN THE SCILLY ISLANDS

See letter: Dry-stone Walling Techniques

*Shell Nature Studies*EDITED BY
JAMES FISHERNO.
IINOVEMBER *in Wales**Painted by Maurice Wilson in collaboration with Rowland Hilder*

IT IS A HARD WORLD IN NOVEMBER for the insect-hunters, but with eggs, pupæ, hibernating caterpillars, they manage. They find other invertebrates too — woodlice, centipedes, spiders — in their active, day-long searching. On the fallen tree root perches a wren (1), resident, noisy owner of the woodland corner; and a tree-creeper (2), like a hopping mouse, explores, working up the root, flitting to the bottom of the tree and working up again. Through leafless trees roams a flock of small foraging birds, goldcrest (3) — Britain's smallest bird; blue tit (4); marsh-tit (5); long-tailed tit (6); and nearest the ground, great tit (7). The green woodpecker (8) spends much of its winter time on the ground, snaking its sticky tongue to two or three beaks' lengths among the corridors of the ant-hill. A drove of wood-pigeon (9) moves to new stubbles. Red squirrels (10) romp about the wood (it is a Welsh border forest beyond the grey squirrel's present range); no hibernation for them. But, underground or among the roots, in beds of leaves and hay, hedgehog (11) and dormouse (12) begin their winter sleep.



Shell's monthly guide to wild flowers, which gave so many people pleasure last year, is being published in book form by Phoenix House Ltd., 38 William IV Street, W.C.2, at 6/6.

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bulls that did not "play" and were therefore picked horribly, leaving me disgusted and sickened. Then I saw a spectacle that I shall never forget. In turn, Litri and the young Gomez turned the *picadors* away after the minimum picking. Litri displayed unsurpassed grace and earned the ears and tail, while Gomez went to the gate and received the untired bull, seven hundred pounds charging from the open gate a hundred yards away. After the picking, Gomez, an experienced matador, was tossed before he killed. Noble as the death was, it was nobler because the bulls in both cases were only picked sufficiently to make them keep their heads down, and were not so mauled that their life was practically extinguished before they met the *matador*.

Though it is clearly time that the authorities had more control over the activities of the *picadors* in the ring, the best fights, and therefore the art at its greatest, is to be seen when a *matador* feels with assurance that his particular bull has been picked sufficiently. Miss Beamish is sound in supporting a claim for shorter points to the *pics*, but she should never forget that the quality of a good fight to a bad one is as different an art as a West End production to a play in the

the craft returned in the late afternoon to her moorings at Mildura, the swallows were always there ahead of her, waiting to re-visit their nest.

The captain told me that this was the fourth successive year that he had been unable to unfurl his Union Jack at nesting-time. In order to enable me to photograph the nest, we removed the flag gently from the cabin and brought it out into the hot sunshine. Within a few seconds of our replacing it the birds were back at the nest.—ALASDAIR ALPIN MacGREGOR, 78, *Swan Court, Chelsea, S.W.3.*

GILBERT WHITE'S TORTOISE

SIR,—In her article on the Wakes, the home of Gilbert White (September 15), Eileen Lewis referred to Gilbert White's tortoise, Timothy.

Timothy belonged originally to Gilbert White's aunt, Mrs. Rebecca Snooke, of Delves House, Ringmer, Sussex, and lived in the garden of that house for forty years. On Mrs. Snooke's death in 1780 Timothy was packed in a box full of earth and leaves and transported by post-chaise to the Wakes, where he survived until 1794. On his death his shell was preserved and sent to the British Museum, where it presumably still is. It would be a fitting gesture if it were now returned to the Wakes to form part of the Gilbert White Museum.

Timothy's portrait can now be seen at Ringmer, for when in 1923 an illustrated sign was given to that village by Lady Demetriadi, his likeness was painted in the middle of it. The sign has just been re-erected after restoration as the result of damage.—ANTONY DALE, 46, *Sussex-square, Brighton.*

FOUND IN A TREE

SIR,—Recently a child's rubber toy was found embedded deep in a beech tree from Suffolk when it was being converted into planks at a London saw-mill. The toy, as shown in

the accompanying photograph, was in the form of a buttoned boot of a type worn in and after the 1860s and was surmounted by a cat's head. At the back of the head was a small hole, and the lower lip was split, suggesting that when pressed it not only squeaked in the conventional manner but also put out its tongue. The disturbance of the grain in the surrounding timber indicates that its youthful owner had

left it wedged in the lower branch of a tree, which down the years grew around the toy, covering it to a depth of nearly a foot.—F. HOLMAN, 4, *Raleigh House, Albion-avenue, S.W.8.*

DAMPVALLEY

SIR,—Apropos of Mr. J. Eason Gibson's recent letter about strange place names, I saw in France two small villages named Damprihard and Dampjoux. These were in the area round Belfort, which was where he saw the signpost to Dampvalley.—M. C. TUELV, *Cornwallis House, Cranbrook, Kent.*

The prefix *Damp* derives from the Latin *dominus*, "master" or "lord of the manor." It is also found in the forms *Dan*-, *Dans*-, *Demp*-, *Dom*-, *Don*- and *Dons*-, thus Dampvalley corresponds roughly to Domain Valley, and any remarks made on the climate by Marlborough's troops are purely coincidental.—ED.]

LADYBIRD, LADYBIRD . . .

SIR,—Recently, while my grandchildren and I were bathing near Rye, Sussex, we found a swarm of ladybirds coming out of a crack in a wooden pile in a breakwater. There must have been hundreds of them, of all sizes, from very tiny ones to the largest I have ever seen; they were of a yellow-orange colour, not the rich red that one sees on the garden ladybirds. Some had as many as nine or ten spots.

The children were most amused by the couplet:

*Ladybird, ladybird, fly away home;
Your house is on fire, your children
are gone*

and were anxious to know if there were more verses. Perhaps you or some of your readers can remember this couplet, and also the origin of the lines.—GRACE C. W. CLARKE, *The Abbey, Cranbrook, Kent.*

[According to the *Oxford Dictionary of Nursery Rhymes* the rhyme about the ladybird concludes:

*All except one,
And that's little Ann
And she has crept under
The warming pan.*

The accepted nursery practice is to take the ladybird on one's finger, pronounce the rhyme and blow on the insect to make it fly away. The *Dictionary* adds that similar incantations are found in France, Germany,



CARVING OF A DEAD PARTRIDGE BY T. W. WALLIS, 1874

See letter: Victorian Carving

Switzerland, Denmark and Sweden. Among the various theories of the rhyme's origin are that the ladybird represents the sun and the house on fire the evening sky; that it is a remnant of belief connected with Isis; and that it is a relic of Freya worship. Whatever the original significance of the rhyme, the ladybird has long been considered sacrosanct, as the name "Our Lady's bird" suggests.—ED.]

VICTORIAN CARVING

SIR,—A few years ago I purchased a carving, three feet high, a photograph of which I enclose. The subject is a dead partridge hanging from a nail on a gate. The bird and ivy leaves I presume to be carved from sycamore wood. Even the string which hangs the bird to the gate is a piece of carving. It is signed "T. W. Wallis, 1874." Have you or any of your readers any idea who he was?—RONALD SCHWEDER, 105, *Cadogan-gardens, S.W.3.*

[We have been unable to find any information about this Victorian carver, but perhaps some of our readers may have knowledge of him.—ED.]

LETTERS IN BRIEF

Humming-bird Moth Abroad Late.—It was surprising and delightful to see a humming-bird hawk-moth enjoying the autumn sunshine in the walled garden in Holland Park on October 12. A friend and I watched it hovering about a flowering *Ceratostigma willmottianum* and dipping its tongue carefully down the deep blue trumpets.—JOSEPHINA BANNER (Mrs.), 5, *Stanhope-mews South, S.W.7.*

Hand-warmers.—In reply to the letter from Sir G. S. King (October 27), we have a similar lamp, in brass, with design of birds and peacocks. It is 9½ ins. in diameter and the lamp is mounted on gimbals. I have always understood that this was a Persian harem lamp (or hand-warmer) and that the ladies of the harem amused themselves by rolling it across the floor from one to another.—NANCY G. HALL, *Crickel St. Thomas, Chard, Somerset.*

Subterranean Passages.—We are endeavouring to compile an authentic list of all legends and traditions associated with the possible existence of subterranean passages and secret tunnels thought to be associated with many ancient buildings in this country. This present age discounts the possibility of these stories being told in the future, and we wish to record them before it is too late.—CHARLES QUARRELL, Hon. Sec., *The Speleological Society, La Bagatelle, Westgrove-lane, Greenwich, S.E.10.*



RUBBER TOY OF ABOUT 1870 FOUND EMBEDDED IN A BEECH TREE

See letter: Found in a Tree

village hall by the local theatrical group.—PHILIP JONES, *Saundridge, Hertfordshire.*

SIR,—Congratulations to Miss Huldine Beamish. After the finest fishing story on record she has given us a reasoned and unhysterical comment on the bull-fight, which I found most interesting (October 6).

I saw the *corrida* on two occasions at Malaga in 1927—before the horses were padded. It is not, of course, a sport, but it cannot logically be said to be barbaric or uncivilised. It is a profound piece of symbolism: the subduing of brute nature by the skill, courage and art of man—and this, after all, and whether you like it or not, is the whole story of civilisation.—W. A. TAYLOR, *Banwell House, Banwell, Somerset.*

UNORTHODOX NEST-SITE

SIR,—The blackbird's nest on the curtain-rod, described and illustrated in your issue of October 20, recalls a swallows' river-boat nest that I happened to notice when cruising last year on Australia's mighty river, the Murray. A pair of swallows continued to fly low across our bows as we chugged along. On my drawing the captain's attention to them, he bade me follow him into the low passenger cabin, where he pointed to a furled Union Jack strung up to within an inch or so of the cabin's roof. On the end of the flag-pole was a downy nest ready to receive eggs.

Whenever passengers boarded the river-boat the birds left the cabin to fly up and down stream, and across the bows. When, in course of time,



A SWALLOWS' NEST ON A FLAG-POLE NORMALLY HANGING BENEATH THE CEILING OF A CABIN IN AN AUSTRALIAN RIVER-BOAT

See letter: Unorthodox Nest-site

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MOTORING NOTES

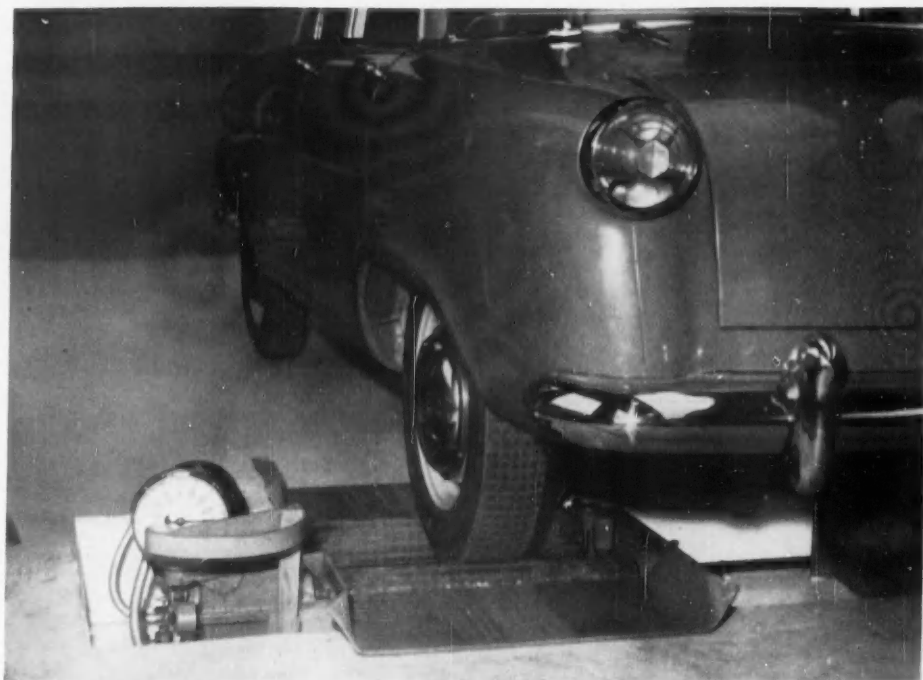
THE NEED FOR VEHICLE TESTING

By J. EASON GIBSON

ALTHOUGH the Government failed to obtain powers for compulsory vehicle testing, an experimental testing centre was operated during July at Slough, and at the beginning of October a Pilot Vehicle-Testing Station was opened in Hendon to provide more experience of the practicability of such inspection centres. The Road Research Laboratory of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research have published an analysis of the results of the tests at Slough, which make very interesting reading. It should be understood, before one considers the results of these tests, that attendance by motorists was entirely voluntary, and that the proportion of new vehicles presented for test was greater than that found in normal traffic. For these reasons the standards of performance and maintenance were higher than would have been the case if a random selection of vehicles had been taken off the roads.

A total of 1,810 vehicles was tested: 1,604 cars, 72 light vans, 128 motor-cycles and 6 motorised cycles. There is no doubt that the test centre created great interest, and some motorists came considerable distances to have their cars tested. Enquiries made by the Motor Agents' Association showed that at least 320 vehicles paid subsequent visits to garages in the Slough area, and of these vehicles 127 are known to have had work done to them as a direct result of the reports given them at the testing centre. At first glance the proportion of motorists who took the necessary action as a result of the reports on their cars seems small, but it may be that many of the visitors to the test centre came from outside the Slough area.

The figures given in the analysis for headlights are of interest, in that they confirm that when headlights are incorrectly set they are as a rule set too high and seldom too low. Out of 1,676 vehicles tested, 136 had their nearside headlamp set too high, and 166 had the offside one too high. Lights set too low totalled only 48 and 43 respectively for nearside and offside. Defects found by simple observation rather than measuring equipment reached an alarming total. One thousand six hundred and twenty-three vehicles were tested for certain defects and 1,677 for others, and a total of 1,591



TESTING THE BRAKES OF A CAR AT THE HENDON VEHICLE-TESTING STATION

defects was found. Among defects discovered were such important items as defective windscreen-wiper blades, unsatisfactory mirrors and defective sidelights and stoplights. As many as 292 stoplights were found to be not working, and on 33 cars the rearlight did not work. It is horrifying to find that there are so many motorists—and among those willing to take their cars voluntarily for test—who fail to notice such defects, none of which requires any skill or specialised knowledge to trace.

The value of having one's brakes tested periodically was well proved during the tests. Even in the case of post-war cars there was evidence to suggest that the motorist who habitually drives the same car may not notice a gradual diminution in the efficiency of its brakes. There was naturally a marked difference in the braking performance of cars from different age groups. About 30 per cent. of the pre-war cars failed to obtain a braking efficiency of 60 per cent., whereas only 4 per cent. of cars less than two years old failed to achieve this figure. That the brakes can gradually diminish in efficiency without its being noticed tends to be confirmed by the fact that among post-war cars there was a higher percentage with inefficient brakes in cars of 1946-53 than in those of 1954-55. A car with a braking efficiency of less than 60 per cent. would not be able to stop from 30 m.p.h. in under 70 ft., whereas a car with the brakes in proper adjustment would need only about 45 ft. Over 9 per cent. of the cars tested for unbalanced brakes had unbalance of the rear brakes; the more serious unbalance of the front brakes was found on 3 per cent. of the cars. As with the defects which were found by simple observation, it is hard to understand how any motorist can drive a car without noticing that his brakes are pulling to one side or the other.

As regards steering defects, over 50 per cent. of the cars tested were found to be faulty to some extent. This is a point on which the average driver can perhaps be excused, as deterioration is usually so gradual that it goes without notice. An interesting and, I think, fairly accurate deduction can be drawn from the analysis made of tyre tests. Out of 1,251 cars examined 40 per cent. had one or more tyres in bad condition, but what is of special interest is that there were many more cars with only one tyre in bad condition than with two, and similarly many more with three bad tyres than with four. This surely suggests that there are many

motorists who have not got the habit of changing their tyres round at intervals to equalise the wear. Apart entirely from any question of safety, changing the tyres round at intervals, particularly if the spare wheel is included in the process, will make them last longer.

Although Parliament decided against a scheme for compulsory testing of vehicles, there seems ground for thinking that such a scheme must inevitably come into force, even if it is applied only to vehicles of more than a certain age.

I think it is regrettable that during the operation of the Slough testing centre no effort was made to test the suspension—in particular the condition of the hydraulic dampers—as any inefficiency can convert a minor incident into a serious accident. Such a test would need to be carried out partly on the road and would thus lengthen the time required to test any individual car. Should a motorist who normally drives relatively slowly and takes corners in a gentle manner be forced to swerve violently to avoid another car or a thoughtless pedestrian, the reactions of his car will depend to a great extent on the condition of the hydraulic dampers, particularly those at the rear. Should they have deteriorated appreciably over a period, the rear suspension will be so soft that what is intended to be a controlled swerve can quickly become an uncontrollable slide, as the roll at the rear of the car will completely destroy the steering characteristics built into the car. Most experienced drivers feel that too much emphasis is placed on efficient braking, and that this has led most motorists into believing that the only correct action in an emergency is to brake as hard as possible. This is far from being correct. Very often, at least out on the open road, trouble can be better avoided by a swerve at the right moment, often accompanied by maximum acceleration.

The test centre run at Slough had the undoubted attraction that a complete examination of a car was carried out free of charge, but the results reveal such a high percentage of small but important defects that it might well serve to remind many other motorists that an occasional expert examination of their cars can be a wise insurance. This applies particularly to such items as steering, brakes and lights, while the wiser driver will personally keep a check that the hydraulic dampers on his car are not gradually reaching a point where they are more or less useless.



MR. BOYD-CARPENTER, THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT, WATCHING THE HEADLAMP-TESTING MACHINE AT WORK AT HENDON

NEW BOOKS

STUDIES IN AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOUR

MESSRS. Stuart Smith and Eric Hosking's *Birds Fighting* (Paber, 18s.), which describes and interprets experiments that they have made, with the help of Mr. George Edwards, during the past few years into the aggressive displays of a number of birds, is a valuable addition to the literature of bird psychology. It deserves to be read also by students of comparative psychology, for the similarity between the reactions of birds and human beings to certain situations is remarkable. Although these experiments raise almost as many questions as they answer, they have carried a step further the attempt to understand the mind of a bird; and they are described in simple language and illustrated with good photographs that make them easy to visualise.

Experiment with a Stuffed Cuckoo

The book is divided into two parts: the first gives an account of experiments designed to discover the reactions of willow-wrens and other birds to a stuffed cuckoo and the various parts of a cuckoo made of detachable sections; the second deals with the reactions of birds such as oyster-catchers and ringed plovers to stuffed birds of their own species or to their own reflections in mirrors.

The tests established that those birds that attack the cuckoo attack it most strongly when they have young in the nest, and that what most birds recognise is the cuckoo's head, which must be both solid and of the correct pattern for them to do so. It was also found that willow-wrens, though not nightingales and whinchats, distinguish between a cuckoo and a hawk, reacting with aggressiveness to the one and fear to the other, and that, if there is a conflict between aggression and fear, aggression predominates. One might expect those species that are victimised most by cuckoos to attack them most strongly, but that does not invariably happen. Robins, for example, showed themselves markedly individualistic in this respect and hedge-sparrows, one of the commonest of the cuckoo's victims, showed no reaction whatever to the stuffed one. The authors suggest that the hedge-sparrow's indifference to the cuckoo explains why a cuckoo's egg in a hedge-sparrow's nest is not of the same colour as the hedge-sparrow's eggs: it relieves the cuckoo, they argue, of the need for any such deception. But why should the hedge-sparrow be indifferent in the first place?

Conflict of Emotions

Among the subjects on which the second part of the book throws light are the similarity between aggressive and nuptial displays in some species and the significance of the so-called displacement reaction, in which a bird, torn between two emotions, such as aggressiveness and fear, seeks relief in some incongruous activity, such as picking up grass or pebbles. And in this section, too, the reactions of birds are shown to be not always what one might expect. A common sandpiper, for instance, failed to react to a dummy of its species but fled when it caught sight of itself in a mirror; and a green-shank, though it violently attacked a dummy sparrow-hawk placed above its nest, showed little interest in a stuffed greenshank set up near it.

Birds Fighting is, in short, a stimulating book that should suggest new lines of enquiry for the expert and introduce the layman to a world that is as yet largely unexplored.

J. K. A.

SAILING IN SMALL SHIPS

THE budding yachtsman should welcome Frank Knight's *A Beginner's Guide to the Sea* (Macmillan, 8s. 6d.). It is a book of an entirely practical nature, covering all aspects

of seafaring from astro-navigation to the choice of wood for a hull. The book falls roughly into two parts—the ship herself, her gear, sails, engine, etc.; and the sailing of her, with special attention to methods of navigation. The author defines nautical terms, gives the rule of the road and ends with a useful chapter on the business perplexities that may beset the owner of a vessel.

WILD LIFE IN SHETLAND

THE need for an up-to-date and comprehensive book to supplement Evans and Buckley's *Vertebrate Fauna of Shetland* (1899) has been well met by the publication of *Birds and Mammals of Shetland*, by L. S. V. Venables and U. M. Venables (Oliver and Boyd, 30s.). In compiling this work, which must surely remain the standard one on the subject for many years, the authors have supplemented an exhaustive study of the relevant literature with observations of their own made during their eight years' residence in Shetland.



A PAIR OF NIGHTINGALES ATTACKING A STUFFED CUCKOO. One of the photographs illustrating *Birds Fighting*, by Stuart Smith and Eric Hosking, reviewed on this page

The main part of the book consists of a systematic list of land mammals (including man), sea mammals and birds, giving the status and distribution of each species and details of any particularly notable occurrences. This section is preceded by chapters on the work of earlier naturalists in Shetland, the various types of habitat to be found in the islands and their typical animals and birds, and changes in the status and distribution of birds there during the past century, notable among which are the increase of the fulmar and the great skua and the decrease of the cormorant, the lesser black-backed gull and the corncrake.

The scarcity of trees and its influence on the bird population of Shetland are well known. Another limiting factor is the islands' sheep, now said to be more abundant than ever, which are responsible for the vegetation being very low and sparse in some districts. Indeed, it seems that it is largely sheep that limit the spread of the introduced red grouse and blue hare, by grazing the heather and other plants on which they feed.

MOUNTAINS AND MEN

ALARGE number of climbs over the last few years are described in *The Mountain World, 1955* (Allen and Unwin, 25s.). Ardito Desio gives an account of the ascent of K2;

Herbert Tichy tells of his small expedition's successful attempt on Cho Oyu, and there are chapters on the mountains of Turkey and Ethiopia. Much of the book deals with the more technical side of mountaineering, such as the scientific findings of the Everest expedition and the possibility of using small aircraft to carry stores as far as the 20,000-ft. mark. The first chapter is a call to mountaineers by Geoffrey Winthrop Young to project their personalities into their writing, without over-romanticising their exploits. The book gives a good all-round picture of present-day mountaineering, and the illustrations are outstanding.

Guido Magnone's *The West Face* (Museum Press, 18s.) tells of a first ascent of fantastic difficulty. With three others the author climbed the west face of the Drus in the Alps—a 3,000-ft. slab of rock, rising in a series of overhangs at an angle of 85° above the Mer de Glace. The climb was done in two stages, after several failed attempts; the first stage took the climbers as far as they could go with

did not long survive the Corinthians; but the author takes us up to the present with an account of the early days of Pegasus after the second World War.

He draws largely on letters written to him by Smith, who disapproved strongly of the modern emphasis on heading at the expense of foot-work and the insistence on speed at all costs. The book is well written, and is illustrated with photographs of Smith's contemporaries and more modern players. There is a foreword by C. B. Fry.

LEGENDS OF THE MOUNTAINS

LIKE all primitive peoples the Hucul mountaineers of Carpathia had a rich store of folk tales and legends. Stanislaw Vincenz has made a selection of these in *On the High Uplands* (Hutchinson, 25s.); there are stories of the legendary Dobosz, who fought with devils and robbed the rich, of Dmytryk, who visited the Emperor's court, of the mighty power of the winter wind and the workings of soothsayers and magicians. The Machine Age is hard on such oral traditions, and it is well to have them embalmed in a book before their inevitable decay and disappearance.

TRAINING A GUN-DOG

THE new edition of R. Sharpe's *Dog Training by Amateurs* (COUNTRY LIFE, 8s. 6d.), first published in 1924, describes the author's successful methods of training gun-dogs. This may be summarised as the inculcation of absolute obedience to the first commands, followed by lessons in retrieving from grass, over fences and across water, the dog being allowed plenty of initiative. There are over 60 action photographs.

ISLANDS OF THE NORTH

ST. KILDA, Foula, Fair Isle and the Skerries have all at one time supported human populations; but St. Kilda was evacuated in 1930, Foula's population is ageing and the remnant will no doubt soon leave, and Fair Isle has the same problem, though it has received some new life with the setting up of a bird sanctuary; in the Skerries alone is there a stable modern community. In *Lonely Isles* (Batsford, 35s.) Roland Svensson describes recent visits to the islands and interprets their decay. He gives various causes: deaths in shipwreck, dissatisfaction with primitive conditions (the St. Kildans petitioned to leave), steam-trawlers, which take large catches from the banks and leave little for the islanders, and lack of education and social activities. But the Skerries have kept their gaiety and independence, and may provide a pattern for other island communities in danger of extinction. The book is well illustrated with drawings by the author.

BRITAIN IN PHOTOGRAPHS

TWO books of fine photographs for the lover of English town and country are *Country Life Picture Book of London and Country Life Picture Book of Britain* (COUNTRY LIFE, 21s. and 30s. respectively). The London volume combines two previous books and has 162 photographs, ranging from such well-known buildings and monuments as the Houses of Parliament, Buckingham Palace and the Cenotaph to Shepherd Market and Chelsea Power Station. The Britain volume contains three previous books and has 257 photographs of fields, market towns, streams and mountains from Cornwall to Sutherland. The photographs in each section of this volume run from south to north, and there are numbered maps by which to locate them.

FOOTBALL IN THE GOLDEN AGE

EDWARD GRAYSON'S *Corinthians and Cricketers* (Naldrett Press, 21s.) is a sporting history written round the life of G. O. Smith, a great footballer and cricketer. Smith was born in 1872 and retired from international football in 1902; he was thus at the height of his powers during the golden age of sport. He was one of the greatest centre-forwards of all time and played for the Corinthians, a team that was the equal of the best professionals, and until its decline and absorption into the Casuals in 1937 was the outstanding example of true amateurism in soccer. G. O. Smith

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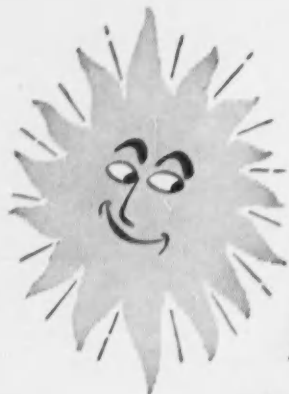
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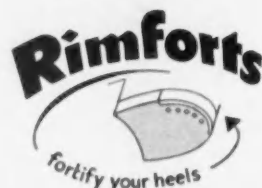


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PRESERVING AN 18th-CENTURY GAOL

By G. BERNARD WOOD

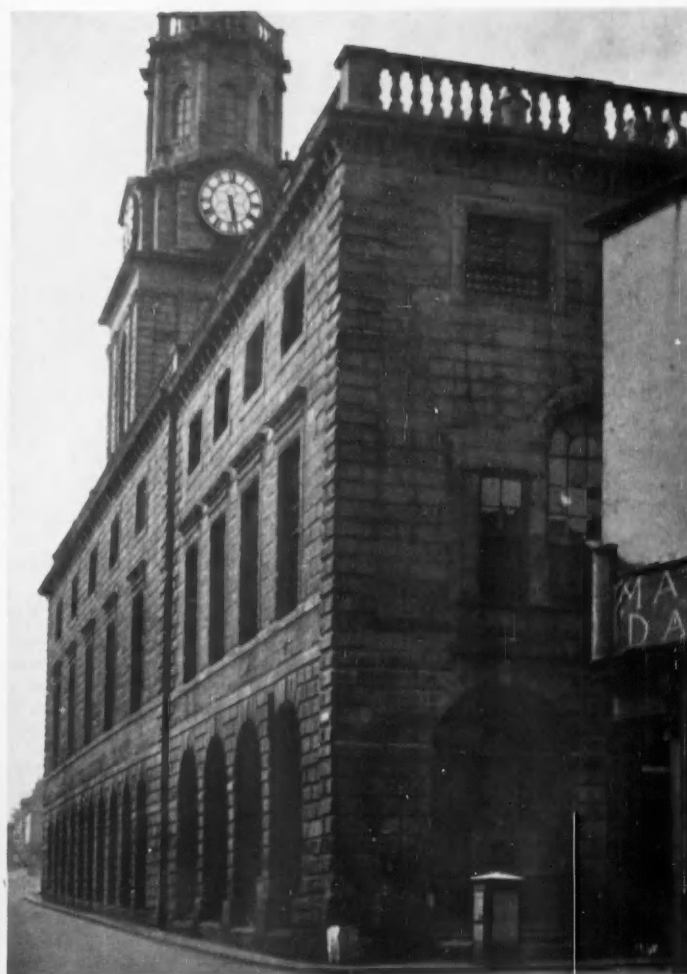
THE complete restoration of the town hall at Berwick-on-Tweed will, it is hoped, direct increasing attention to this splendid 18th-century building which has won from Professor A. E. Richardson, P.R.A., the consulting architect, enthusiastic appraisal in these words: "It is . . . a building which would not disgrace the University towns of Oxford or Cambridge and one which would be welcomed in London."

Its similarity to St. Martin-in-the-Fields has often been noted. Indeed, its ecclesiastical appearance is such that people frequently mistake it for the parish church. How else should strangers regard the building when they hear a peal of bells ringing from its lofty steeple on Sundays, calling folk to divine service? This is an act of grace, for the parish church near by has no bells of its own.

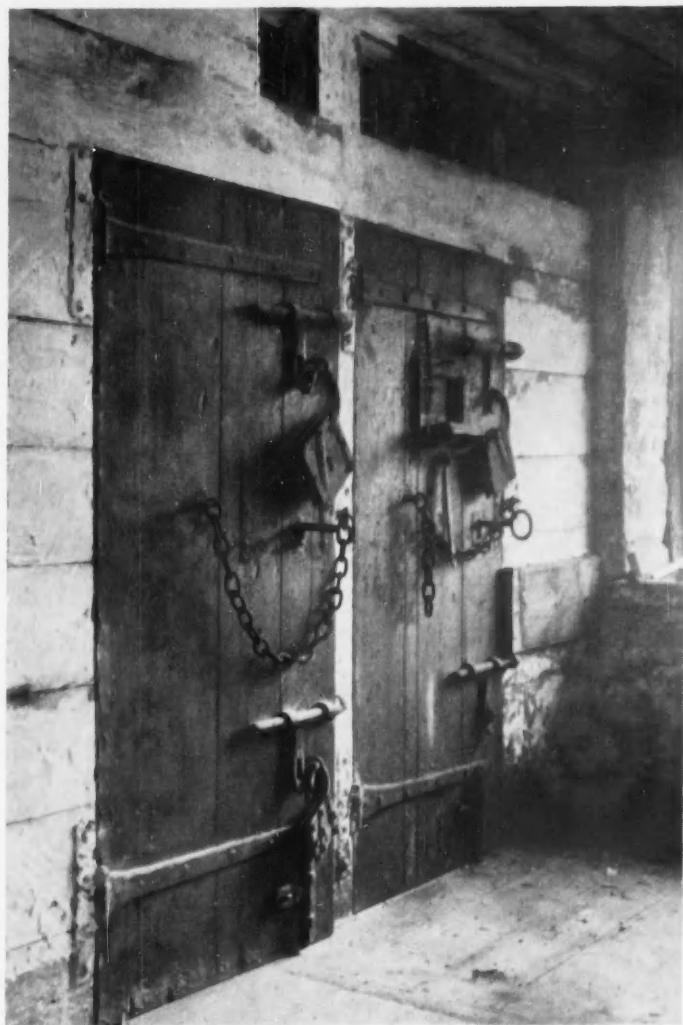
It is also paradoxical that the town hall should so far belie its ecclesiastical vesture as to house a gaol in the top storey. The spiral wooden stairway which the bell-ringers use on Sundays was originally the sole means of access to the gaol, and as drunkards as well as debtors were confined here the difficulties of taking offenders in charge can be imagined.

When the restorations were first mooted it was suggested that the old town gaol be scrapped and a banquet hall take its place. This, it was felt, would match the dignity of the guildhall and court-room below. However, the Freeman's Guild, which owns the town hall, soon surrendered the idea when Professor Richardson indicated the unique character of the gaol. It is unique in possessing the only complete set of cells in their original state left in England. Social history, besides a gruesome chapter of building construction, is served by their retention, and a condition of the Ministry of Works' generous grant towards the cost of restorations is that at length the general public shall be given facilities to view this grim survival.

The ten cells vary in size and equipment. Each door is double-boarded and fitted with an intimidating array of hand-made locks, chains and hinges. Within, however, one can see evidence of the prisoner's grade. Two cells have each a large wooden bed, fitted with wooden pillow, affixed in one corner. A window with iron louvres and grills neighbours a small open firegrate. In the Guild minute books an entry dated November 30, 1815, states that coal was allowed to certain prisoners in the following proportions: "from October 15 to April 15, 1s. 6d. worth of coals per week, and from April 16 to October 14, 9d. worth."



THE TOWN HALL, BERWICK-ON-TWEED. The top storey was used as a gaol, which is being preserved in its original form



CELL DOORS IN THE OLD GAOL. The gaol was used chiefly for the confinement of debtors and drunkards

On September 27, 1805, an application on behalf of Mr. Peter Hateley, a prisoner for debt, was submitted to the Guild thus: "... he is now lodged in a room in which there is no fireplace which renders it very uncomfortable to him and he will be much more so when winter comes on." Next day the Guild ordered a fireplace to be fitted in Hateley's cell!

These larger cells measure 15 ft. by 13 ft. by 8 ft. high. By contrast the solitary confinement cell is little better than a dungeon. Space is severely limited; there is no window of any kind; and the wooden bed is so narrow that the top surface had to be gouged out to prevent the inmate from falling off. It has the appearance of a shallow coffin.

Although the birching cell has two arm supports descending from the low roof to tell its tale, attention is soon focused on the prisoners' wall-scribbles. These include fully-rigged ships, an imaginary version of the gallows and names spelt out in surprisingly good lettering. Other cells show scratch-drawings of trawlers, fishing boats and ships-of-the-line of about Nelson's day. Accumulations of whitewash are being removed to disclose the full range of prisoners' art.

The above-mentioned minute books throw considerable light on the conduct of the gaol. In 1807 the gaoler's salary was increased from £20 to £40 per annum. In 1812 James Wallace, the town wait, was gaoled here for debt. More exciting entries come earlier, when several escapes were reported. On March 17, 1783, "William Hall Meer, the person who had been appointed to the office of Usher of the English Reading School . . . who had committed several forgeries in the town for which he was committed to the Gaol of this Borough . . . broke the said Gaol and made his escape." Then, in terms of locks, bolts and bars, follow details of additional precautions.

Soon afterwards, Fuller, in his *History of Berwick* (1799), indulged in a description which is worth quoting at length: "... the upper flat (of the town hall) is occupied as a common gaol, and is perhaps the most healthy and pleasant one in the kingdom. This is owing to its many large windows, from which the prisoners enjoy several excellent views of the Town, the German Ocean, Bambro' Castle, and Holy Island . . . Persons laid up for debt or petty offences are permitted to walk on the roof . . . to enjoy the free air. This circumstance, together with the extensive and beautiful surrounding prospects already noticed, must both be a pleasant and salutary indulgence to the prisoners. Add to this, whilst these captivating objects tend to soothe the mind, and to alleviate the sufferings of confinement, they, at the same time,



WOODEN BED AND FETTERS IN ONE OF THE CELLS. This is one of the more comfortable cells. (Right) PLASTER FIGURE OF JUSTICE IN THE COURT-ROOM BELOW THE GAOL

hold out the inestimable blessings of unrestrained liberty . . ." The Reverend Thomas Johnstone of Berwick wrote with equal verve in his local history (1817), concluding his account with the words: ". . . there is perhaps no place in the Kingdom where the prisoner is more securely lodged, or his comfort more

attended to, than in the Gaol of Berwick." The gaol was still in use when John Scott wrote his *History of Berwick* (1888). His account is particularly interesting because of some ground-floor cells which, he says, "are now abolished." Present work at the town hall shows that at least two of these cells were not

abolished but simply bricked-up. Each cell measures approximately 12 ft. by 9 ft. by 12 ft. high and has a barrel-vaulted roof of brick. It is not known when the cells were sealed, but several bundles of civic documents they have "imprisoned" until this year of their discovery are now being examined with eagerness.

THE KEEPER SHOWS HIS TROPHY

By
C. HENRY WARREN

THE ha-ha that allowed the Squire an uninterrupted view across the park from his high, mullioned windows, allowed me, from the roadway, the same uninterrupted view in reverse. Beyond the carefully placed trees, all of them open to the four quarters of the weather and enabled thereby to grow and show their shapeliest and best, the Tudor façade of the Hall took rosy light from the declining sun.

It was a gracious scene, and heartening, too. It conveyed a sense of civilised living. The beautiful old house, the cattle in the park, the encircling heavy woods—all contributed to the general air of well-being. Every time I pass this way I find myself compelled to stop awhile and enjoy the scene. But I do so, I must admit, more and more in the spirit of de la Mare's injunction to "look thy last on all things lovely, every hour." One never knows, from year to year, what may befall even the most modest and stable of our English country houses.

* * *

Meanwhile, praise be, here is one that still adheres to the traditional pattern of country life, in however diminished a manner. Here is one whose master the villagers still call Squire, as they have called his fathers for generations before him. This fact of itself seems to give one something to hold on to, steadying one in the rapid flux all around.

Or so I fancied, as I stood in the roadway outside the park, leaning against my bicycle. The sunlight was growing more golden every moment and the first home-coming rooks were squawkily preparing to settle in the elm-tops. And then, breaking the dream, I saw that somebody was riding out of the woods into the road some way ahead of me. It was the keeper, going home to tea. I mounted and easily caught up with him; for, like most country folk, he rides so slowly that the difficulty is not in catching up with him, but in keeping such a slow pace that one does not lose one's balance.

A keeper's company is invariably good company. How could it be otherwise, even though one may not approve of all his tricks and prejudices? He lives with nature all the day (and often much of the night) and his very success at his work depends upon his powers of observation and upon the skill with which he

employs these observations to his advantage. Variety, so far from being only the spice of his life, is its common meat. Almost alone to-day among rural workers, he thoroughly enjoys his job—a job that remains virtually outside the ever-increasing influence of the machine.

And so our slow progress to his cottage was not without its reward, at any rate for me. He loves to play the teacher to me; and I, for my part, am willing enough to play the pupil. We stood at the gate awhile, talking, and I was just preparing to go on my way when he said: "You haven't seen my peregrine falcon, have you?" Without waiting for an answer, he dropped his bicycle in the ditch, gave me a knowing twinkle (as much as to say, "Now you shall see something worth seeing!") and hurried indoors.

To say that I was intrigued is to put it mildly. A peregrine? In Essex? What is more, for the moment I had even supposed he was keeping one in captivity—housed, perhaps, in those tin shanties at the back of his cottage whose walls used to be hung with rabbits until myxomatosis put paid to one of his most profitable side-lines.

But when he reappeared in the doorway I saw that the peregrine was stuffed and mounted. He carried it in the crook of his arm. The two faces, man's and bird's, were incongruously close together. As he advanced down the garden path towards me, he grinned with pride and satisfaction.

He stood before me waiting for my word of praise and astonishment, stroking the dull breast feathers with his horny fingers. I found nothing to say. "Well, ain't it a beauty?" he asked, unable to bear the suspense any longer.

"Why did you kill it?" I countered.

It was a poor substitute for the admiration he had so confidently expected. His disappointment showed immediately in the snatched-away smile and the quick retort. "Because," he said, "it was playing the devil with my birds. Skimming along under the leaves, it was, and fair ripping 'em away." And then, as if to shame me out of my continued unappreciativeness, by example from the best source possible, he added: "Squire was so pleased he took it up to London with him and had it stuffed for me."

"When was this?" I asked.

"October time last year," he answered.

Perhaps I should have used the opportunity to try to convince him of the folly, and worse, of his deed. Perhaps I should have reversed our usual role this time and played the teacher myself, reminding him that, although peregrines do occasionally pass through East Anglia, pausing here awhile on migration, they are far too rare visitors to be much of a menace to him, and that, moreover, their food at such times consists quite as much of small fellow migrants and the pigeons which he himself detests, as it does of the young pheasants which it is his obvious duty to protect.

* * *

What would have been the use? I have tried this sort of thing on keepers often enough, and it has got us nowhere. Their usual motto is: what is not for us is against us—and therefore to be shot. No, it would need a long and strenuous course in ecology to convince my keeper friend (if even then) that he can on occasion be his own worst enemy. His ignorance, where it exists, is ingrained. Much of it he inherited from a long line of keepers before him (his father, for one, perhaps, who trained him) and it is the more obstinate for this.

But that the Squire should reward him for it was less understandable.

"Where did you shoot the peregrine?" I asked, finally, examining the corpse at closer quarters.

"I didn't," he almost snapped back at me. "See here," he added, indicating one of the claws, which I now saw had been injured, "that's the only mark there is anywhere."

I knew then of course that it had been trapped. I recalled a pole-trap I had stumbled upon, some years ago, in a covert, and I had a sudden vision of the torture this bird must have endured. I could not trust myself to speak. In any case, the keeper was already retreating up the garden path, the bird stiff in his arms, like a ventriloquist carrying his doll away after the show—and a most unappreciative show at that. I got on my bicycle and rode off.

By the time I had reached the Hall again, dusk had quite doused the golden light. It did not look like the same place. And the rooks, assembled now in their hundreds, were making a deafening roar in the darkened elm-tops.



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'I notice—said McDermott—that the whisky you offered me is smooth and velvety. It tastes mellow, and to me it has something of the smoky bog and the old ferns. Does this describe your own feelings?'

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St. George's Tower, Oxford, by T. Shotter Boys. 1803-1874.
Watercolour, 17½ inches by 14 inches. Exhib. N.W.S. 1866. Cat. No. 282.

A CAUSERIE ON BRIDGE

HOW TO WIN A MATCH

By M. HARRISON-GRAY

THE longer one lives, the more one realises that slam-hunting is an overrated pastime, especially when facing an unfamiliar partner. This last condition accounted for a recent interesting experience. Eight teams from various clubs compete in the first division of the London League. As certain characters, the writer included, are loth to play in every match, any number of players may represent their club during the course of the season. The arranging of seven matches and persuading of four of his team-mates to appear on the appointed dates puts quite an onus on the member who acts as captain, selector, secretary and telephonist; in our case the honour fell to a young player noted for industry and advanced views on bidding.

Our first opponents included Terence Reese, Kenneth Konstam and the brightest young pair in the country, Jeremy Flint and Tony Priday. It was a case of fielding our strongest formation, the captain announced, so the Sharples brothers would be in one room, while he and I would endeavour to harmonise in the other. He agreed to a suggestion that my faithful Dormouse, just in case of accident, should be in attendance.

What a perverse game Bridge can be! During the first 16 boards my partner and I, playing against Reese and Konstam, were involved in no fewer than seven slam or near-slam hands. Exhibit A is scarcely worth mentioning at this stage—we merely bid Four Spades and made Five, with Q J 7 5 2 in trumps facing 10 6 3. Exhibit B was more exciting:—

♠ J 10	♥ A Q 8 2	♦ K 9 8 7 6 4 2	♣ A K Q 5 2
♥ K J 10 9 5	♦ K 9 8 7 6 4 2	♣ A K Q 5 2	♠ A Q 8 2
♦ A	♠ A Q 8 2	♥ K J 10 9 5	♦ K 9 8 7 6 4 2
♣ K J 9 7 3	♥ K J 10 9 5	♦ A	♠ A Q 8 2
	♣ K J 9 7 3	♥ K J 10 9 5	♦ A
	♠ A Q 8 2	♥ K J 10 9 5	♦ A
	♣ K J 9 7 3	♥ K J 10 9 5	♦ A
	♠ A Q 8 2	♥ K J 10 9 5	♦ A
	♣ K J 9 7 3	♥ K J 10 9 5	♦ A
	♠ A Q 8 2	♥ K J 10 9 5	♦ A
	♣ K J 9 7 3	♥ K J 10 9 5	♦ A
	♠ A Q 8 2	♥ K J 10 9 5	♦ A
	♣ K J 9 7 3	♥ K J 10 9 5	♦ A
	♠ A Q 8 2	♥ K J 10 9 5	♦ A
	♣ K J 9 7 3	♥ K J 10 9 5	♦ A

Dealer, West. East-West vulnerable.

As West (my position throughout the match) I opened One Heart; North bid Two Diamonds, and East took such a good view of his hand that he forced with Three Spades; West backed him up well, and we ended in Six Hearts doubled, three down.

Somewhat chastened, I back-pedalled slightly on the board that followed (Exhibit C). The contract was Four Spades, with an odd Ace and the King of trumps missing. I found that we had eleven trumps between us; the King was bare and the small slam was cold.

After a couple of humdrum deals, up came four successive boards of which the first was Exhibit D below:—

West	♠ Q 6 2	East	♠ A 9 7 5 4 3
	♥ A K 8		♥ 7 2
	♦ A Q		♦ ...
	♣ A K J 8 5		♣ Q 10 7 3 2

Dealer, West. Neither side vulnerable.

Off we went with Two Clubs—Two Spades (some might prefer a negative Two Diamonds); Two No-Trumps—Three Clubs; Six Clubs. I agreed with Dormouse, sitting behind me, that my bidding was well-judged—the Two No-Trump rebid suggested a minimum Two Club call, a balanced type of hand with 23-24 points, so East could tell that some of my high cards were likely to be wasted; had I raised Spades or shown my Club suit, he might have felt tempted to have a shot at the grand slam. As it was, my captain was in no mood to be nursed and converted Six Clubs to Seven. This could not be described as a sound contract. Exhibit E followed:—

West	♠ 9 8	East	♠ A K J 3
	♥ A Q 10 9 6 3 2		♥ K J
	♦ Q 9		♦ A J 8 7 5 2
	♣ A 10		♣ 3

Dealer, East. Both sides vulnerable.

In spite of previous disasters I stuck to my principles in forcing over East's One Diamond

opening; otherwise, it is often hard to catch up on such hands. Full sequence: One Diamond—Two Hearts; Two Spades—Three Hearts; Four No-Trumps (Culbertson)—Five No-Trumps; Six Clubs (doubled by South)—pass; Six Hearts. East's Six Clubs was an excellent effort; it gave me the opportunity to bid Six Diamonds if I had held the King, in which event East could have said Seven (Hearts) on somewhat firmer ground than in the preceding case. South held the King of Diamonds, so Six was the limit.

On Exhibit F, unfortunately, we reverted to our previous form:—

West	♠ A 10 8	East	♠ K Q 6 3
	♥ K J 9 6		♥ A Q 4
	♦ Q J 10 8 3		♦ ...
	♣ J		♣ A K 8 6 3 2

Dealer, East. Neither side vulnerable.

This is not an easy hand to bid, but somehow I think we should have stayed in one of the many makeable game contracts. We actually reached Six Spades—not an outrageous bet, but Spades and Clubs broke unkindly, so the slam went two down.

Finally, on Exhibit G, our opponents did some bidding for a change: Two No-Trumps—Three Clubs; Three No-Trumps—Five Hearts; Six Hearts. The Three Clubs by Reese was a natural response, but Konstam took it to be conventional; they had nine Clubs between them, but only seven Hearts. Our captain, ever on the alert, decided they had got their wires crossed and made a fine psychological double. Neither opponent thought of redoubling, which was just as well, since Seven was reasonably cold.

Here is a recapitulation of our record as a pair during the first half of the match. On Exhibit B, we lost 800 in Six Hearts doubled; on C, we missed a lay-down Six Spades; on D, we went two down in Seven Clubs; on E, two down in Six Spades; on G, we doubled an adverse slam, which was made with an over-trick. We had two minor triumphs, if such they can be called; we had kept out of Six Spades on Exhibit A, lacking the Ace and King of Trumps, and out of Seven Hearts on E, where a key

card was known to be missing. On several of the smaller hands we were a long way from obtaining the optimum result. In fact, the only gratifying feature was the model deportment of our opponents, who resisted any temptation to jeer at our misfortunes; furthermore, they showed incredible self-control when scores were compared during the interval.

My partner and I, strange though it may sound, found that we could actually blame our other pair for the fact that on balance we had gained only 760 points on the seven exhibits listed above. After the rival East-West pair had sailed into Six Spades on A, giving us an unexpected swing, our South player made his one and only mistake of the match on B, the Room 2 bidding going thus:—

West	North	East	South
1 Heart	2 Diamonds	4 Hearts	5 Diamonds
5 Hearts	Double	No bid	6 Diamonds
Double	No bid	No bid	No bid

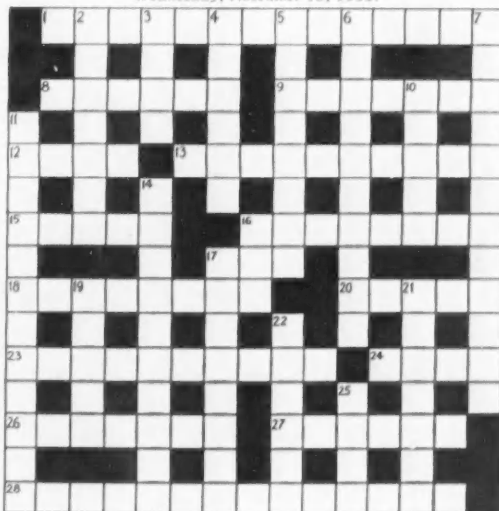
Had South allowed his partner's double to stand (and why shouldn't he, holding a perfectly good Ace?), the adverse swing might have been a mere 300 instead of the actual 1100.

Continuing the Room 2 story, the slam was missed on Exhibit C (no swing), and D provided one of the most monstrous pieces of good fortune that has ever come my way—the contract was an impeccable Six Clubs, but North held K J 10 in Spades, so our own grand slam effort cost a net 50 points. There was less injustice on E, East-West going down in Seven Hearts for a swing of 1530; on F, they were one down in Six Clubs; on G, our North-South pair bid and made Six No-Trumps.

We started the last 16 boards with a slight deficit and with Dormouse taking the place of our captain, after a tactful suggestion that she was better equipped to cope with my eccentricities. There were no further slam episodes, and the final result was a comfortable victory for our team. In view of our overall gain on the seven first-half exhibits, I expect to read in one of the magazines that we won "by virtue of superior slam bidding!"

CROSSWORD No. 1344

COUNTRY LIFE books to the value of 3 guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 1344, Country Life, 2, 10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, November 16, 1955.



Name.....
(MR., MRS., ETC.)

Address.....

SOLUTION TO No. 1343. The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of November 3, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1, Hash; 3, Chesterton; 10, Niobe; 11, Aluminium; 12, Owned; 13, Theories; 14 and 23, Office; 16, Cairn; 17, Enigmatic; 20, Bell-metal; 22, Solar; 24, Caerleon; 27, Aloud; 29, Adornment; 30, Cadet; 31, Engrossing; 32, Fred. DOWN.—1, Hansom cabs; 2, Spoonbill; 4, Heartfelt; 5, Spume; 6, Epigram; 7, Tripe; 8, Name; 9, Hendon; 15, Accredited; 18, Islington; 19, Tall order; 21, Marengo; 22, Search; 25, Along; 26, Evens; 28, Page.

ACROSS

1. A very poor lemonade? (3, 5, 1, 5)
8. Believing, is it? (6)
9. "That's torn it!" as the impecunious might say when it comes along (4, 3)
12. It may, of course, upset those who go on it (4)
13. Plenty may take it in hand (10)
15. Hardy's Clare (5)
16. Fell in (8)
17. One of ten to take to the East (3)
18. They are delicacies to men and pigs (8)
20. "Th' unwieldy elephant . . . wreathed 'His ——— proboscis'—Milton (5)
23. It's nice, Pat (anagr.) (10)
24. It is no good to be this (4)
26. What the finder of treasure may think his discovery means (7)
27. Would the world get too hot-headed without it? (6)
28. This saying does not imply that burglars are dense (5, 2, 7)

DOWN

2. A chance for the house-breaker (7)
3. "And the lily whispers, 'I ———'"—Tennyson (4)
4. It is run on territorial lines (6)
5. This is not delivered in a whisper (8)
6. One of those beach defences (4, 6)
7. What the committee finds for supply (4, 3, 5)
10. The gull commonly is this (5)
11. This should be a tight fit (12)
14. Y-shaped predicament (5, 5)
16. Anyway call for help (3)
17. One more for a team of boys, perhaps, for Reading (3, 5)
19. Men do it before removing their collars (5)
21. A madeira is and isn't one (7)
22. Not quite Sibelius to get through (6)
25. Give up (4)

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.

The winner of Crossword No. 1342 is

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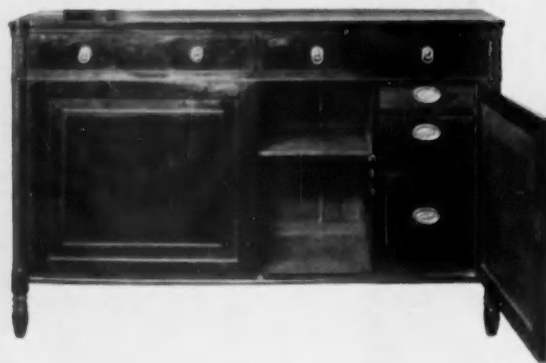
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THE ESTATE MARKET

A LAND OF PROMISE

THOSE who, like myself, have not visited Australia, associate it principally with sheep and know that the nation's economy depends to a large extent on the price of wool. They appreciate, also, that it is a rich continent, as yet only partly developed, and therefore of infinite promise. But I doubt, somehow, whether many people in this country have much idea of comparative land values as between, say, London and Sydney, or Somerset and New South Wales, and since most of us are naturally inquisitive about conditions that obtain in other countries it may be of interest to record some observations made by Mr. Ronald Collier, a chartered surveyor whose firm has offices in Sydney and Melbourne, as well as in London.

In the course of a lecture given to the Chartered Auctioneers' and Estate Agents' Institute the other day, Mr. Collier touched on most aspects of real estate in Australia, but perhaps the most interesting part of his talk was that which dealt with the investment opportunities that exist in Australia so far as farm land is concerned, for, as he said, "in no sphere of Australian real estate is there so much opportunity as there is in agriculture."

POTENTIAL LAND VALUES

SOME idea of potential land values in Australasia may be gathered from Mr. Collier's appreciation of a property of 5,000 acres in Tasmania that he was asked to value for a firm of London solicitors. The land had been held by an English family for fifty years and had been let to Australian tenant grazers—an unusual state of affairs inasmuch as tenant farming is almost unknown in Australia, where there are no tenant-right laws and where there is no encouragement for a tenant to improve a property. It was not surprising, therefore, that most of the property under survey was in its native bush-forest condition. It was carrying about 3,500 sheep, or approximately two sheep to three acres, and was deemed to be worth, including the development value, £32,000.

"The gross income from the above stock," said Mr. Collier in his lecture, "would be about £5,700, and after allowing for shepherding, stock replacement and all expenses, the net income would be about £3,300." But (the italics are mine) a careful estimate of the potentiality of the property revealed that if properly developed and managed, the productivity could be increased to 10,000 sheep, that the quality of the wool which would be cut from an improved property would be much greater than from the unimproved property, and that the gross income would be built up to £27,000, with a net of approximately £15,000. Moreover, the cost of improvements under Australian taxation law could be found wholly out of income, so that if all income were ploughed back into the property for a period of 16 years, he estimated that, if the present level of values were maintained, the capital value at the end of that time would have increased from £32,000 to £160,000.

SCOPE FOR DEVELOPMENT

ANOTHER example of the scope that exists in Australia for developing farm land quoted by Mr. Collier concerned the sugar-growing districts of Queensland, where the gross yield per acre is about 25 tons, selling at £6 a ton, or £150 an acre, the expenses being approximately one-third of the gross yield, leaving £100 an acre profit to the grower. In order to avoid over-production, a sugar-cane licence is

required before it can be developed for sugar-growing, and land with such a licence is claimed locally to be worth £100 an acre. "But," points out Mr. Collier, "as it is producing up to £100 per acre per annum net, it is obviously worth a lot more." Further—and here is a striking example of scope for development assuming that a licence can be obtained—land immediately adjoining sugar-cane land will sell for £7 10s. an acre. "I cannot help," says Mr. Collier, "but compare the picture of rising values in Australian agriculture properties with that appearing in the *Country Landowner* and referred to by Mr. W. M. Balch in a paper which he read to the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors in May, 1955." I, too, remember the paper. In it Mr. Balch dealt with the decline in the gross rents of agricultural land in this country between 1872, when rents averaged 34s. 6d. per acre, to 1949, when they averaged 30s. 4d. per acre.

BERKSHIRE ESTATE SOLD

ALTHOUGH farm land in this country may not offer the scope for development that exists in Australia, nevertheless there are usually plenty of buyers about when an agricultural estate comes on to the market and Messrs. Simmons and Son have written to say that they have disposed of the whole of the Sandford estate of 907 acres, near Kingsclere, Hampshire. The sale took place privately, and a large house and numerous cottages were included.

A sale of agricultural land that was only partly successful concerned the Broadwood estate, which extends to 814 acres at Warnham on the borders of Surrey and Sussex. The property includes seven small farms, of which two, of 73 acres and 62 acres respectively, were sold at auction for a total of £7,100, and two more changed hands privately in the auction-room, leaving Messrs. Crow, who were in charge of the sale, to find buyers for the remaining three.

BOUGHT BY TRUSTEES

ACTING for Miss Evelyn Ward, whose family have owned the property for several generations, Messrs. Petre and Savill have sold Salhouse Hall, an estate of 560 acres that lies about six miles to the east of Norwich, the buyers being the trustees of the Cator Settled Estate.

An important agricultural property that would seem to represent a useful investment is the Kingston estate of 889 acres near Pembroke, which is offered by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley and Mr. J. A. Roch. Two advantages of the property are that it lies in a "cleared area" for milk production and it is not saddled with a large house. The estate is made up of six farms, three smallholdings and six blocks of accommodation land, the farming interests, apart from dairying, being mainly beef and potato-growing. The income from the land is £1,424 a year.

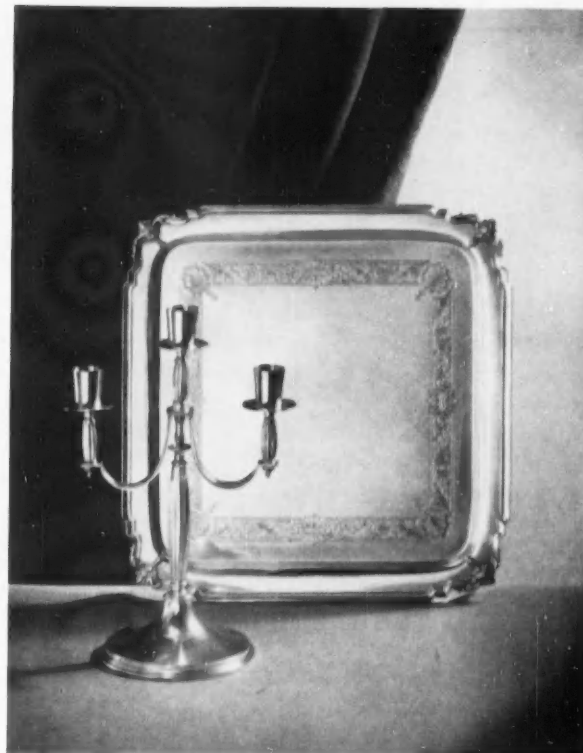
£1,100 AN ACRE FOR BUILDING LAND

FROM Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley comes news of a successful auction of outlying portions of the Earl of Darnley's Cobham Hall estate, Kent, which resulted in 27 lots out of 33 offered being sold for a total of £16,625. A feature of the sale was the keen competition for building land, where outline planning permission for residential development had been obtained. A plot with a frontage of about 60 ft. to Cobham High-street was sold for £500 and other building land realised up to £1,100 an acre.

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FARMING NOTES

FARM INCOME FALL

QUICK on the heels of the Cambridge economists' report on farm incomes in East Anglia (which I summarised last week) comes a similar report from the Department of Agriculture Economics of the University of Nottingham analysing the accounts of 240 East Midlands farms for the year 1954-55. Compared with the previous year, the net farm income fell by 33 per cent. from £1,732 per farm to £1,167. Only the farms classified as cropping with dairy, over 150 acres in size, maintained their profit level. It is worth recalling that at the 1955 annual price review it was estimated that the reduction in farm incomes, taking the country as a whole, would be about 12½ per cent. To compensate for this increase were made in the guaranteed prices of certain crop products and in the production grants and subsidies. It was made clear at the time that this was exceptional treatment. Indeed, from the standpoint of farmers it is well that this point was made clear.

The current year, thanks to exceptionally favourable weather for the grain crops and hay, will probably give a better profit level generally than last year. We know that the Chancellor of the Exchequer is anxious to prune the subsidy bill where this can be done without prejudicing the continuance of a high level of output. Unless something calamitous happens in the coming winter, farmers must expect in the next price review to find still more emphasis put on economic production, rather than on increased production irrespective of cost. The heavy bill for imported feeding-stuffs is much in the Chancellor's mind.

Poultry Selection

MR. GEOFFREY SYKES puts vigorously his views on poultry stock improvement. In a paper read at the Dairy Show he declared that the future battle in poultry breeding would be between the large organisations spending freely on the research of poultry selection, and the small breeders pursuing poultry stock improvement as an art. At Cornell University to-day they teach the young student who wants to become a poultry breeder that his best hope is to start in the hatchery business. After he has built this up to an annual output of four million chicks a year his business can afford to support the heavy cost of a stock improvement scheme. The target of the poultry geneticist in the United States is to breed the most efficient bird and such progress has been made that to-day a competent American poultryman starting up with a high standard of housing, feed and management is likely to realise a hen-house average from a large pullet flock of White Leghorns of 220 to 270 eggs in a season, the pullets consuming under 100 lb. of food and their eggs averaging over 2 oz. He will, according to Mr. Geoffrey Sykes, make a reasonable living from his poultry farm "on a food/egg price ratio on which we in Britain would go bust."

Flax-growing

UP to 175,000 acres of flax were grown at the height of the war. Millions of yards of canvas were used as gun covers, tarpaulins and fire hoses and for a wide range of other equipment. Now the Government have decided that the ten scutching mills where flax has been processed on Government account should be closed. They did not pay. I see that the flax trade deplores the action which the Government have taken without first exploring the possibilities of continuing flax production in this country under private enterprise with Government support. The Flax Spinners' and Manufacturers' Association of

Great Britain say that within an otherwise subsidised agriculture economy the growing of flax must prove impossible without a compensating subsidy. The closure of the home-grown flax scheme means the dissipation of a fund of skill and knowledge acquired over the years at great cost and which cannot be brought back at a moment's notice in time of danger. It is surprising that those farmers who liked growing flax have not through the N.F.U. made more effective representations to the Government. Belgium is now the chief source of supply for the industry. Northern Ireland has her own linen industry where a large measure of Government support is given to help the promotion of linen sales.

Farm Equipment

AT Oxford, from January 4 to 6, leading farmers from all parts of the country will discuss "current trends in farm equipment." This is the tenth Oxford Farming Conference, and at this stage of our agricultural development no more timely topic could have been found. In recent years farmers and landlords have made heavy investments in equipment of all kinds with the object of easing the labour problem and providing means to attain higher output and better market returns while the numbers employed on farms have been falling. This trend in agriculture employment is bound to continue. Farm wages move upwards, but not fast enough to compete with the demands for unskilled labour which go with expanding industrial production. When a new factory is to be built in a rural area, as a great many are to-day, the contractor can readily draw on the local farm labour by offering a wage £2 to £3 a week higher than the farm wage. To meet this problem farmers have to manage with less labour or go out of business. Managing with less labour requires a good lay-out in the cowshed and other buildings used for milk production. The Oxford Farming Conference will provide an opportunity to learn from the experience of others. The conference is open to all. Application for tickets may be made to Mr. M. H. R. Soper, Department of Agriculture, Parks-road, Oxford.

Potatoes in Demand

WHILE there was enough rain to moisten the ground in October, it was never so muddy as to hinder the lifting of the main potato crop. This went remarkably smoothly. The yield is not heavy in most places. I have heard of as little as 4 tons of King Edwards and up to 12 tons of Majestic. After the dry summer many growers have to be content with a yield of 7 tons, whereas normally they reckon to get 9 to 10 tons. Most of the potatoes I have seen are scabby, but apart from this they are sound. There is a ready market for them and prices are good. One grower tells me that he has sold all his Majestics straight out of the field, after riddling them, of course, at £17 a ton, to be collected at the farm. There will be no need for any heavy Government subsidy to look after surplus potatoes through the Potato Marketing Board at the end of this season. It is all to the good that there is a keen trade this year. If it had been otherwise there would probably have been a further decline in the potato acreage. This reduction has probably gone far enough for the present. The potato area in the United Kingdom was 880,000 acres this year, compared with 945,000 acres in 1954 and 990,000 acres in 1952. This is well above the pre-war acreage; the 1939 total was 704,000 acres. This year's acreage is probably about the right mark.

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SUBURBIA

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

THE ideal town has no suburbs. It is habitable, and it is inhabited in all its parts, by citizens who have no difficulty in going on their legs from one place in it to another. In Dr. Johnson's day even London was like that. Within the town were the work—all sorts of work—and the men who did it. A town was urban, which is to say urbane. No large town-to-day is urbane, which means that the towns have failed in the purpose for which they exist. The nightly scramble for buses and trains suggests a population flying in terror from a plague, which is indeed what

due honour being given to their native state."

Though one may not accept Mr. Kenward's definition of Suburbia, and substitute "The momentary outer fringe of a continuing noxious pressure," and though one may suspect that the rosy light which fell upon his native state was little more than the domestic happiness that seems to have blessed his childhood, his book deserves wide recognition for the beautiful, allusive reconstruction of the circumstances of his earliest years. Also for the way in which Mr. Edward Ardizzone has translated

THE SUBURBAN CHILD. By James Kenward
(Cambridge University Press, 12s. 6d.)

BEHIND THE MIRROR. By Robin Maugham
(Longmans, 10s. 6d.)

THE SIEGE. By Jay Williams
(Macdonald, 12s. 6d.)

THE PHANTOM BATON. By James Kinross
(John Murray, 10s. 6d.)

is happening. It began a long time ago. Charles Dickens, who is thought of as a townsman to the finger-tips, loathed the great towns of his day, including London.

The creation of suburbs is an attempt to redeem the failure of civilisation in the towns, but the suburbs of one town tend to touch those of another, and so we have, full kick, that process so frighteningly illustrated in the book called *Outrage*, reviewed here a few weeks ago. But suburbs, before they are sucked into the vortex, can be pleasant places, a palliative, it is true, but with momentary consolations. What those consolations were, as a child experienced them, is the theme of Mr. James Kenward's book, *The Suburban Child* (Cambridge University Press, 12s. 6d.).

A STATE OF EXISTENCE

Mr. Kenward's memory does not go far back. We place his moment by the fact that he was seven years old when the first World War began. By then, he thinks, the great days of suburbia were over. Those days were "during the decade and a half between the end of the South African War and the beginning of the First World War." And where was Suburbia? "It might be defined with greater geographical accuracy as a state of existence within a few minutes' walk of the railway station, a few minutes' walk of the shops, and a few minutes' walk of the fields." The Suburbia which existed at that time and in those circumstances was "a state," and this state, Mr. Kenward thinks, deserves a history "complete with footnotes and maps and an acknowledgment of the civilising influence it has had upon the larger world." The present book is offered as "an incomplete memorial volume." The author thinks, and rightly enough, that "the fashion for using the word 'Suburban' in a derogatory sense has gone on long enough. Now that 'Victorian' has been admitted as a word for some kind of greatness it is time that Suburbia's children insisted upon

this into line. We may suspect for one thing that all the young fry of Suburbia were not furnished with so understanding a father, so enchanting an uncle. These, perhaps, must take their share of the blame for Mr. Kenward's apparent delusion that in Suburbia some law made all men right-thinking and, within the limitations of the human condition, right-doing. Suburbia glows for him like the island-valley of Avilion:

Where falls not rain, or hail, or any snow,

Nor ever wind blows loudly.

But it would not surprise me to know that any given suburban street contained as many crooks, tyrant-fathers and wife-beaters as could be found in a similar street in town. And I am not always happy with some of the conclusions to which Mr. Kenward's enthusiasm leads him. For an example, writing of a push-bike: "Shaped as it is, and representing a boy's ambition as it does, does it not convey to you at least some of the idea expressed in Donatello's *David*?" For me, at any rate, I'm afraid the answer is "No." Occasionally, Mr. Kenward ropes within the suburban ethic virtues that express themselves everywhere. He celebrates a suburban parson who was sacked because he opposed the Boer War, but the pro-Boer movement of those days had no peculiar suburban significance.

THE COMING OF THE CAR

However, as a record of how a boy grew up, what schools he went to, what books he read, what toys he had, what games he played, and in what domestic ambience he lived, this is an exceptionally attractive book. But, as we tend to kill the thing we love, so Suburbians helped to kill their own sort of civilisation. For a child, Mr. Kenward says, the streets were important. All sorts of wheeled pavement toys abounded. But Suburbia, like all other territories, freely admitted the motor-car, and what parent, suburban or other, is happy now about pavement toys? Backing

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REVIEWS by HOWARD SPRING—continued

the car into the garage, they complain that motor traffic makes the streets unsafe. This summer a visitor was telling me of a remote Cornish beach that she and her husband had visited with joy year after year. "We were there the other day," she said, "and you wouldn't believe what it was like. Cars everywhere! The place was ruined." I asked her how they had got there, and she looked at me with surprise. "Why, in the car!"

CHASING A DIPLOMAT

It is not often that I read three novels in a week, or, if I do, that I enjoy them all. But I have had that good luck this time. First, there is Mr. Robin Maugham's *Behind the Mirror* (Longmans, 10s. 6d.). It is an old device of novelists to take a situation that is generally believed to have been thus, to create a reason for its investigation, and to show that it was, in fact, very far from being what is supposed. So it is here. In order to write the script of a film about a famous actress, David Brent is sent to Tanganyika to find Norman Hartleigh, the brilliant young diplomat who had thrown up his career and gone into voluntary exile when the actress, although she loved him passionately, as he loved her, ended their association for the sake of his career. That was the legend. The actress is now dead, but the film can't be made without Hartleigh's consent. As he ignores all letters and cables, Brent must find him. He does, and he learns the truth behind the legend, and so different from it.

Mr. Maugham doesn't waste a word, which is why every word tells tremendously. The African scene is vividly evoked, and the isolation of the whites in a land where you drive for hours to pay a social call is, one can fairly say, appallingly suggested. There is not a character who is not fully alive, from film magnates in Wardour-street to Hartleigh's small black mistress. Readers should be told that the central fact of the book is homosexual. This is a theme getting into novels more and more, as it is being revealed to exist in life more and more. Mr. Maugham uses it with restraint and precision. A line which sums up much of what the book has to say is this: "During the long night it had occurred to me that if we were less tolerant of cruelty and more tolerant of illicit love the world might be a happier place."

A CONFLICT OF LOYALTIES

Mr. Jay Williams, author of *The Siege* (Macdonald, 12s. 6d.), is an American writer, but his theme is European. It is concerned with the crusade launched during the Papacy of Innocent III against the heresy of the Albigenses. The heresy was widespread. Many of the lords of the time had been persuaded into its beliefs—lords who were bound by that rule of chivalry which compelled them to obey their overlords. Mr. Williams has thus given himself a subtle theme: a conflict of loyalties, for if an overlord calls you out to join in the butchery of those whose religious cause is your own, though you may not openly have declared it, where are you? And so it was, too, with many knights and squires who, in turn, must follow the lords.

The book is thus far more than a robust tale in which the squalour and the colour of the times are magnificently used. Mr. Williams is an historical novelist of brilliant quality. He

is obviously steeped in erudition concerning everything to do with his period: the arms and accoutrements, the methods of warfare, the training of the jongleurs, the mimic battle of joust and tilting field, and the sort of life that went on then in castles and the hovels crowded about them and the farms where heretic and devout alike still listened to the voice of the coven in whom survived beliefs earlier than Christianity. But he has absorbed his erudition, and knows how to make it unobtrusive, the colour and movement of his narrative. As for his people, they are varied and vital, representing all the life of the time. It is a book to be commended without reservation.

A WARRIOR'S INTUITION

Men-at-arms are the matter, too, of Mr. James Kinross's *The Phantom Baton* (John Murray, 10s. 6d.). The central character is Colonel Bouchard, now 65 years old, who had fought under Napoleon, even unto Waterloo. Now, outmoded, rather laughed at by the up-and-coming youngsters, he is in command of a small fort in French Morocco. He is not only laughed at: he is distrusted. For Bouchard was one of those soldiers who believed in "intuition" at a time when science and mechanisation were gaining ground in the official mind. Worst of all, Bouchard was known to be a man who would follow his intuition even though it violated the commands of headquarters.

For years an Arab rebel against the French, "the Leopard" had been to Bouchard the epitome both of chivalry and of a defiance that must be dealt with. This book is the story of Bouchard's last campaign when, once more ignoring orders, he decided to have a final go at capturing the Leopard. It is a robust and convincing tale, depending, like Mr. Williams's, on human character confronted by outrageous circumstance. The officers and men under Bouchard's command are of great variety, but each one is seen as an individual, their common bond being a personal devotion to the gnarled old warrior who commanded them, and finally died with them. Certainly a book to read.

PROBLEMS OF AFRICA

ODEN MEKKER, the author of *Report on Africa* (Chatto and Windus, 21s.), is an American journalist who recently spent a year in Africa and has recorded his impressions in a pleasant, informal *New Yorker* style. Being an American, with no colonial axe to grind, he can give a fair appraisal of European attempts to govern and live with the African. Each country has a different approach: France follows the old Roman principle of extension of citizenship; Belgium has an avuncular attitude and is primarily concerned with creating needs in the African whose satisfaction will line Belgian pockets; Britain is now more or less committed to a policy of "creative abdication," which is regarded with horror both by rabid upholders of *apartheid* and by those people for whom a dark skin spells an inferior being, or at best an irresponsible one.

Mr. Mecker's book is more than a political commentary: he has an observant eye for the habits of the pygmy or the bustle of a Nigerian market, and works a certain amount of history into his narrative. Though the book has been in some parts overtaken by events, it should help readers to understand the perplexing problems facing all races in Africa to-day.

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THE WINTER DRESS IN WOOL

THE tunic has its greatest success among the town dresses in fine smooth wool. Some are slim and straight, being knee-length and with trim shoulders and round necklines that lie close to the throat or necklines that are cut out to a square. They are beltless and pliant, usually black, and narrow all the way down. The tunic line is grafted with equal success on to a dress that has a considerably wider hemline when it moulds the waist and hips and then inclines outwards to about knee level. Below this the gores skirt continues at an angle so that a pyramid silhouette is made. On some the hem of the tunic is outlined with braid or a flat tuck of the material; on others the curving seams running from the armholes to the hem of the tunic are emphasised by rows of buttons, by braid or by corded bands or channel seams. These dresses are mounted on to a stiffened foundation so that they retain their shape and they are beltless and have the same type of close-fitting plain bodices as the narrow styles. On both types it is the discreet decorations inlaid within the shape that make them so distinctive, and the exquisite surface of the woollens.

Another set of afternoon dresses in smooth fine black or beige wool have their slender pliant lines broken by the merest touch of drapery at one side of the hipline or across the bodice. A shining black silk may pipe the jigsaw sections that form the bodice or a deep shoulder yoke. Waists are indicated by darts. Fine wool dresses also swing out into gores at the back with the same movement that appears for many cocktail and evening dresses in taffeta. Fronts fit smoothly and narrow belts keep a trim waistline. Necklines dip either in front or at the back to a low V shape. Very smart, too, are the beltless sheaths of dresses in really thick



The tunic dress with an easy fit to the waist carried out in a sleek beige wool. The underskirt is made on a stiffened foundation to keep the shape (John Cavanagh). Tam in melusine (Simone Mirman)

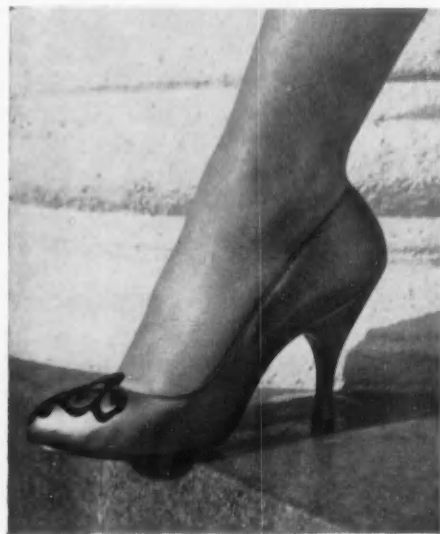
Photographs by COUNTRY LIFE Studio

wool, either tweed or supple black, mushroom or steel grey woollen frosted with white. These are frequently cut low at the neck and plain three-quarter sleeves are set in below the shoulders. Deep pockets are inserted low down on either side in front, or else the sweater top, beltless and barely indented at the waistline, is set in at the hips with stepped sections.

In their latest ready-to-wear collection, Jacqmar show half a dozen tweed dresses in muted pastel shades and with either straight or knife-pleated skirts. They are intended for winter travel and are shown under pale tweed coats that keep to the same slender lines where the waist is barely marked. In contrast there is an outfit of a dress with a monkey jacket made in a sleek beige wool. The charming dress has a crisp wide skirt and a plain fitted sleeveless bodice cut high at the throat with a horizontal slit to form the neckline. Spanish cotton brocade, a heavy fabric in café-au-lait colour with a white design of large loose sprays, appears for a jacket and sheath dress—a mellow unemphatic colour-scheme that is really elegant.

Wool jersey dresses run through all the various styling groups. All the pink tones are favourites, from a faint cyclamen to the deep raspberry and strawberry shades. Thick smooth woollen jerseys tailor well for the fashionable sheath dresses. Others are knitted with a fancy rib, so that they resemble hand-knitting or are flecked like a tweed. The nylon and orlon outfits with minutely pleated skirts and crossover pleated tops wash easily and keep their pleats, so they are most practical. They look like a fine bouclé wool and are warm to handle. Other knitted dresses, in pastel pinks and beige, are ribbed vertically and boldly all the way down from a high polo collar to the hemline. These are being bought for winter holidays in the south.

The muted pastels are evidently going to be fashionable for winter holidays abroad, and this is always a pointer for the spring fashions at home. In all the various shows there have been these muted pinks and blues combined with mushroom or grey used for suits and jumper dresses to be worn with a travel coat in a light tone, not necessarily a matching one. There will be a pale blue tweed coat over a



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mushroom and blue or mushroom and cyclamen pink suit, or a green coat over a beige suit. The stronger colours are brought into the picture for the lighter materials such as a rayon shantung shown by Jacquemar in f'ame colour for a very wearable suit that has a kilted skirt and straight jacket. A double row of flapped pockets decorates the hem of the jacket either side, and it fastens up to the throat.

STRONG blues were featured by the Belgian designers who brought over a collection of wholesale clothes, but again this was among the linens and the shantungs rather than the woollens, which kept to the more muted shades. A gay linen outfit was one of the outstanding models shown by this group—a deep blue three-piece composed of bolero, top and gored skirt with a deep hem of vivid lemon yellow and above this three circling rows of fringe in gay primary colours. A light white waterproof in waffle nylon was an idea for wearing over summer frocks. Long all-white umbrellas with shepherd's crooks are the latest addition.

The classic formula for raincoats is pleasantly varied in the new Telemac range, for while the shape is always basically simple there are varied embellishments. Colours, too, run right through the gay ranges usually associated with summer dresses. A mackintosh will button down the front on a succession of half-moon-shaped tabs. A high collar will turn over a buttoned neckband. Printed cotton waterproofs were shown in two-coloured lightening patterns, in candy stripes, and diamond dots as well as duster checks. Mackintoshes are made from silk and linen, and in a cotton woven with a honey-comb surface. Shower-proofed coats in hand-woven tweed and suitings are

(Right) Flecked tweed, periwinkle blue and mushroom brown for a slender dress with a wide collar that buttons on a tab over a folded circular neckline (Cresta)

A big collar falls away from the open neckline of the tweed dress below. The colour is mushroom brown frosted lightly with white (Dorville)



moccasin. The shoe fitting is narrow about the heel and it is made with leather studded or rubber soles. An outfit for going on safari was another contribution to this show of country and sports clothes—a bush shirt in tropical Grenfell cloth and slacks made of a special worsted with a red undertone treated to resist the rays of the sun. For cruising a white sheer crêpe dress and pure silk suits with pleated skirts were included. For winter sports there were ready-made tight-fitting elasticised vorlages that keep their shape throughout a holiday, fit nearly all sizes and cost ten guineas. Many pastel colours are being shown for skiing jackets, especially an attractive pink called snow pink. A nylon ski-ing jacket was shown that can be carried neatly on the back by two looped straps. The whole jacket is pushed into the large kangaroo pocket in front which is then zipped across the top. An archer's outfit was another item.

Waterproofed cotton dresses are a novelty in the first of the wholesale collections for next summer. One in a blue and white pattern has fly-away cuffs below the elbow and a circular skirt.

P. JOYCE REYNOLDS.



constructed with the fashionable low belts or pockets. One is caped so that there is an additional layer, and the cape is detachable.

Stylish hats accompanied the Telemac mackintoshes and shower-proof coats. The waterproofs had their own matching hats—often a trim cloche or a smart sou'wester shape. Most ingenious of all was the handkerchief hat that could be worn projecting over the face or lying protecting the nape of the neck. It can be folded up and fit in a pocket. Matching showerproofed pull-on hats were worn with the showerproofed tweeds or closely fitting folded turbans in wool jersey. Deerstalker hats are made in tweed or gabardine by several firms and look very smart indeed in tweed reversed to a waterproof cotton on the other side. With the Belgian mackintoshes rather large and dashing shapes were worn that looked as though they might be inclined to get blown off in windy weather. One in white was safely moored to the head by a helmet which continued upwards to a high cone.

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(Left) Thick beige wool jersey is knitted in a ribbed pattern converging on a centre seam down the front of the skirt. Chevroned bands outline the neckline, pockets and cuffs (Peter Robinson)

(Right) Walking-shoe in teal-brown calf with a neat decoration (Brevitt)





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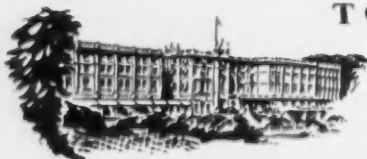
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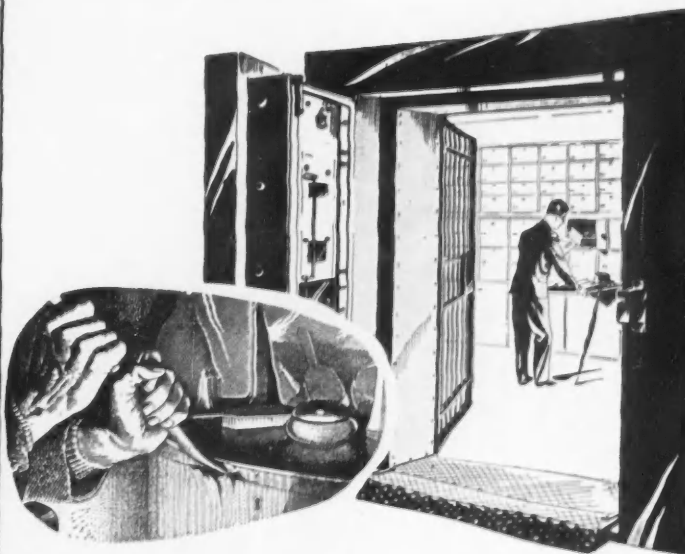
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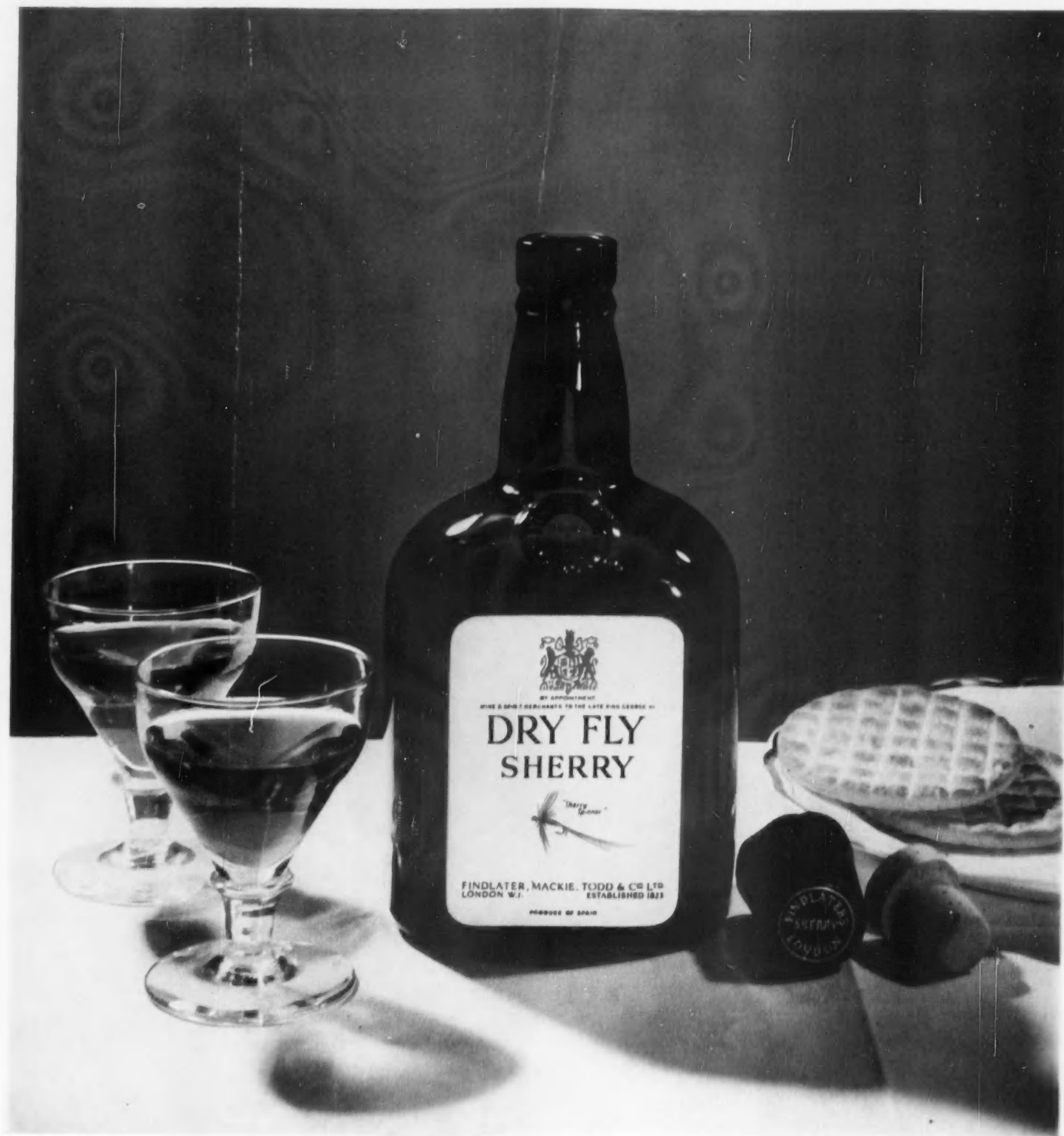
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